**Worksheet D10.1**

**Effective use of quotations**

Read the five extracts of different quality from students’ different responses below. Decide which one makes its points in the most balanced, authoritative way. Focus on how accurately/precisely the writers use technical terms to describe language features, how naturally they integrate supporting evidence into their response and how closely they track the comparison between the two poems.

**Student A**

John Cooper Clarke’s use of 20th-century ‘street slang’ echoes the language of pop songs of the 1960s by The Beatles – ‘I wanna hold your hand’ – and Elvis Presley ‘Just wanna be your teddy bear’. The poet also alludes to that period by suggesting he can offer no higher guarantee of his love than to compare it to the reliability of a ‘vacuum cleaner’ or an ‘electric heater’, everyday objects we all started to rely on when modern conveniences began to be widely used. In U.A. Fanthorpe’s poem ‘First Flight’, on the other hand, the modern world is portrayed as a hazardous, unreliable place where the earth ‘slithers / Off at an angle’ under the wheels of her plane and cars are susceptible to ‘low tyre pressure’, which carries echoes of the human condition ‘high blood pressure’, something the poet may be suffering from, convinced as she is that she is heading for certain death on her very first flight – ‘At this height nothing lives.’

**Student B**

In the poem ‘i wanna be yours’, the poet John Cooper Clarke compares himself to a series of everyday objects to persuade his loved one that he would make an ideal lover because he is very reliable, like a ‘ford cortina’ or an ‘electric meter’ or a ‘coffee pot’ or a ‘raincoat’. These are metaphors for his love and they are very original and surprising because you don’t normally see that in poetry. Similarly, U.A. Fanthorpe’s use of conversation on a plane where people are talking about boring everyday things like raincoats and pullovers and their secretaries is equally unusual in poetry and makes us think about how maybe poetry’s role in modern life is changing and is more in tune with how people really speak, for example, ‘wanna’ instead of ‘want to’.

**Student C**

John Cooper Clarke’s poem is not your typical poem, with its absence of capital letters and punctuation and its focus on trusty household objects acting as metaphors for romantic love. The use of anaphora, ‘let me be your’, throughout the poem and the repetition of the title ‘i wanna be yours’ at the end of each stanza form a rigid frame in which Clarke personifies everyday items like ‘vacuum cleaner’ and ‘electric meter’ which he for some reason believes will win his beloved’s heart. The language of the mundane also intrudes into the less earthbound setting of U.A. Fanthorpe’s poem, although boring conversations about ‘business lunches’ and ‘secretaries’ and suitable clothing for the weather in an unnamed foreign destination are not consoling enough to distract the poet from her fear that she is not going to survive her ‘First Flight’. She stretches her neck ‘for the last of dear / Familiar England’ and prepares to meet her fate with the doom-laden image ‘At this height nothing lives’. For her the technology of the modern world is not the source of comfort that it is for Cooper Clarke, but rather an unpredictable , potential deathtrap flying above the metaphorical ‘meringue kingdom’ of clouds towards ‘the sun’ that is ‘too near’. This suggests the mythological story of Icarus, who flew too close to the sun and died as a result.

**Student D**

**Student E**

Like the Mersey Beat musicians of the past John Cooper Clarke uses slang in his poems as well as ordinary everyday objects too. In his poem ‘I wanna be your’ he repeats himself a lot, which emphasises his love for his girlfriend. He uses everyday modern world objects to compare his love with. Metaphors like ‘I wanna be your Ford Cortina/I will never rust’ which means that he will always be reliable and ‘never rust’. He uses the modern world to illustrate his love while U A Fanthorpe uses the modern world, and particularly aeroplane flight, to illustrate her fear. Unlike the other passengers, she is frightened which is clear from the very first line: ‘I don’t like the feel of it’. While the other passengers seem calm and well travelled (as the title suggests, this is her first flight) she remains frightened for her very life, which is suggested in the very lats line of the poem too: ‘At this height nothing lives’. So, while Clarke’s modern world is used to compare his love, Fanthorpe’s modern world is one that she is trapped in, even for a short while.

Clarke’s poem uses objects like ‘vacuum cleaner’ and ‘coffee pot’ to show his love for his girlfriend. The whole poem is full of metaphors and Clarke uses each one to tell of his love. Like an ‘electric meter’ he ‘will not run out’. This means he will not leave her. In the poem ‘First Flight’ Fanthorpe would love to leave the plane, I think, but she can’t and this makes her scared. ‘I don’t like the feeling of it’. Clarke is in love and Fanthorpe is scared. That is how they use the modern world in different ways.