

**Pearson Edexcel
International GCSE English Literature (4ET0/03)**

The purpose of this pack is to provide centres with marked exemplars of responses to the June 2015 examination.

Included in this pack:

- Questions from June 2015 paper
- Marked responses
- Examiner commentary

QUESTION 1 **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
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SCRIPT 1:

Explore how different poets treat the subject of Love, referring to three poems in detail, and at least three others from your wider reading?

We are comparing how the different poets of:

- First Love (John Clare)
- Sonnet 116 (William Shakespeare)
- Rapunztilskin (Liz Lochhead)
- Havisham (Carol Duffy)
- My Last Duchess (Robert Browning)

- forgets to list a poem

Compare and treat the subjects of Love. I will take an in depth view in to each poem looking at the style of language used, how they are presented etc.

In the poem "My last Duchess" Browning (the poet) implies that the Duke is possessive about his wife who he is deeply in love with. He is a very jealous lover. So jealous in fact that he kills her over it. "That's my last Duchess", this portrays that that the Duke is bitter in his love, and also that he is controlling. He sees his wife as one of his possessions and he has to have total control over them.

Underlining

Both characters "the Duke" and "Havisham", are both very bitter, in the Duke's case he is bitter because his wife was flirting with other men, "So it was not her husband's presence only". In Havisham's case she is bitter because her fiancé stood her up on their supposed wedding day. "Beloved sweetheart bastard".

clear links

Direct comparison

Not everything in these poems are the same. The Duke has moved on from his last Duchess and is going to marry another woman, whilst Havisham cannot let her lover go, she does not move on from her fiancé, her life just stops. This therefore suggests that these poems are different as in the Duke he does not cling on to love but in Havisham that is all she lives for. Browning gets this across by implying that the Duke has moved on to another women. "Must never hope to reproduce the faint". This portrays that the Duke has moved on from "His last Duchess", he has forgotten about her and has moved on to another women. Duffy gets this across in "Havisham" by portraying Havisham as an old women whose life is not moving forward. "Whole days in bed cawing Noooo at the wall". Duffy is telling the reader that Havisham cannot let go of the past. The use of the phrase "Deadly pale" suggest that she is lifeless and cold.

contrast

have some analysis

General understanding of love.

Both poems are very powerful monologues. They also use the technique of enjambment. Harsh and stilted imagery occurs in both poems. Havisham is much more violent poem than my last duchess, "ropes on the back of my hands that I could strangle with." Whilst My Last Duchess takes more time to realise who the character is. Also the tone darkens towards the end of the poem. "There she stands/As if alive". The layout of these poems is very different because "In My Last Duchess" is broken up, stilted and prose like. This is because the Duchess is a much in a much different tone.

In comparison to "Havisham" which is also a monologue but is much neater, and is put in to four stanzas. This is because it is a lot more serious and there is a lot of sour language used. Harsh and stilted imagery occurs in both poems. *for example?*

Neither poems are enthusiastic. They are both designed to shock the reader. Both use venomous language, "Just this and that in you disgusts me", "Wished him dead. There is some very strong and aggressive language used in these poems. This is language occurs in both poems throughout. Both characters are subsequently angry because whom they have loved.

Decent understanding + use of text.

In his poem "Sonnet 116" Shakespeare describes love as a lifelong commitment. Shakespeare believes that time can take away good looks but it cannot take away love. "Love alters not" This implies that when you start loving somebody, that you will always love them. Shakespeare explores the traditional idea of love and time being enemies, but his attitude towards love is positive throughout. "Rosy lips and cheeks are challenged by times sickle"

In his poem Shakespeare suggests that nothing can get in the way of love. "Love is not love which alters when it alteration finds, or bends it with the remover to remove. Subsequently this implies that love is no matter what. Which means that love is everything in the world. A person's life with love is a better life. Metaphors occur in "Sonnet 116" which are based on nature of love. "Looks on tempests and is never shaken". This shows that Shakespeare believes that love is part of our natural world.

Shakespeare suggests that love stays still. "It is the star to every wandering bark". This portrays that love does not go away, it cannot just leave you. You cannot just stop loving somebody or someone. Love is always with you (weather) it is a big or small part of your whole life. Shakespeare's poem is very constant. Every line is not just a single sentence. This suggests that "Sonnet 116" flows. The poem does not stop and start. That looks on tempests and is never shaken, it is the star to every wandering bark. Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken? This poem is very continuous. The poem is set out very neat in just one stanza. This therefore links back to the poem being very constant.

Some recognition of technique.

In the poem "La Belle Dame sans Merci" John Keats has set the poem out as a traditional Ballad. Keats has used 12 stanzas with this poem, each with roman numerals above them indicating what number stanza. With each stanza having exactly four lines in them. Also each Stanza has approximately 24 words in them, this therefore suggests that "John Keats" is very precise when writing his poem.

In "La Belle Dame sans Merci", John Keats treats the subject of love with great in depth. In the fourth Stanza the knight describes the lady that he met with great detail. "Her hair was long, her foot was light, and her eyes were wild". This suggests that the lady that the Knight met had quite attractive characteristics. In his poem John Keats also uses imagery. "And her eyes were wild." This suggests that the Knight was looking in to her eyes and that he could sense that she was wild. This could also suggest that he had fallen in love with this lady.

Some recognition of language here

There are many differences between "Sonnet 116", and "La Belle Dame sans Merci". The layouts are both traditional structures. "Sonnet 116" is just one stanza which comes across neat with a solid structure which is sonnet poem. Whilst "La belle Dam sans Marci" is an old fashioned traditional Ballard which is set out in 12 stanzas with 4 lines in each. In Shakespeare's poem he talks about how love will never leave you "I never writ, nor no man ever loved. This suggests that a man always has loved somebody. Whilst Keats poem is how much the knight is in love with his lady, but the lady leaves the knight, this is different to "Sonnet "because in in "Sonnet" Love is constant. Both poets have different ideas of love, which most poets do.

help make

General understanding

In his poem "First Love" John Clare portrays a man who falls in Love at first sight. "I near was struck before that hour with love so sudden and so sweet". This implies to the reader that the man in the poem immediately falls in love with the first women that he sees. The man in "First Love" cannot control his love for this women. "I could not see a single thing, Words from my heart did not start". This is suggesting to the reader that the man is so in deeply passionate in love with the women that he is finding it difficult to speak. The Poet of "First Love" (John

Clare) uses very naturalistic language in his poem. Compared to Shakespeare's "Sonnet 116" which is written to suggest that love is permanent and inspires people to love, and that Love lasts forever.

"Rapunztiltskin" is not as neat as the other poems that I have studied. With only a short number of words on each line. "Liz Lochhead" treats the subject of love by portraying the prince to be good looking and charming. "He did look sort of gorgeous", this tells the reader that the prince is good looking, and it also implies to the reader that the women is attracted to the prince. When the prince tells the women that she is beautiful she does not believe at all that she is. "NO, NO, NO!" This suggests that the women does take kindly being called beautiful.

Liz Lochhead uses vigorous and intense words to describe the conversation between the women and the Prince. Words such as "throwing, pulled and trapped, suggests that the poet is using strong language in the conversation between the Prince and the Women, this is very similar to one of the other poems that I have studied. "Havisham" has language which is like the language in "Rapunztiltskin" where the language is strong, but where these poems differ is that "Rapunztiltskin" is a kind love and the language is not harsh, compared to "Havisham where the language is harsh.


In all the poems that I have studied I have learnt many things on how the poets treat the subject of love. Each poet has a different style of writing and each poet has different views on love, some strong and some weak. All poems I have studied have strong and meaningful language in them, which gives the readers different views on how they treat the subject of love.

14/30

Retained references to the poems and general, if inconsistent knowledge. Some recognition of poets' techniques.

*Unfortunately only 5 poems referred to - not 6 as required. - SORRY have now found number 6!
14 is too general here - at times*

Knowledge 'falls into 'basic' rather
than detailed.

11/14 

Script 1.

The requirement for 6 poems is met. The keyword in this response is 'some'. There is some recognition of the writers' techniques with some analysis of language. This is however, not developed and there is not enough detail. There is some understanding of the various aspects of the poems. Links and comparisons are made between made the poems. The candidate is selective in the use of textual references. There is evidence of some personal engagement. The folder is rather basic than detailed in its approach to the task. Because of the occasional detail it falls comfortably into the 11-14 band

Centre mark: 11

Moderated/standardised mark: 12

SCRIPT 2:

Compare the ways in which the poets write about the theme of love in 'La Belle Dame Sans Merci' 'My Last Duchess' and 'Sonnet 116'. Refer to three other poems to show wider reading.

'La Belle Dame', 'My Last Duchess', 'Ballad' and 'First Love' are concerned with the physical side of love, whereas 'Sonnet 116' is about a love between two minds. The first three all present a negative view on love as they are concerned with rejection or betrayal, whereas Shakespeare's view on love is much more encouraging.

appreciation of meaning

write into writer's copy

Technical vocabulary used

analyse familiarity with text

In 'My Last Duchess', Browning presents love as controlling and possessive. He describes the Duchess as having a very interesting face, which describes her as being beautiful, 'The depth and passion of its earnest glance'. Browning portrays her as being poor and innocent and not a deceiver as she rides 'The white mule' which we imagine as a small white horse, which suggests purity and innocence. The Duke in the poem is explained to have a cold and callous nature, 'I call that piece a wonder now,' this shows us how he doesn't care that his wife is dead, the positioning of the comma suggests that he is happier and feels more comfortable she is trapped in a painting, so he can control who and when anyone sees her. The Duke is portrayed as having a superior attitude to the Duchess 'I choose never to stoop'. He is saying that he would never lower himself to her level, as he believes he is much more superior to the Duchess. Browning creates the form of the poem by using a dramatic monologue and blank verse. In the beginning of the poem we are able to hear the Duke's arrogant voice, 'That's my last duchess on the wall' Browning creates an interesting structure of the poem by using flash backs to when the Duchess was alive, showing us how the Duke treated the Duchess even though she was innocent. It also shows his jealousy and why he felt he needed to kill her to finally be in control of her, by having her in a painting with a curtain. However, the flashback is framed by the Duke showing round a representative for his next Duchess and this makes us realize he does not love his wives, he sees them as possessions to add to his collection.

'La Belle Dame' and 'Ballad' also use flashbacks, like 'My Last Duchess'. They are both Ballads. However, 'Ballad' is a traditional ballad passed down by word of mouth, and is therefore more regular and has a more pastoral feel to it than 'La Belle Dame' which is a literary Ballad. 'La Belle Dame' follows the four line stanzas of traditional Ballads but the last line of each stanza is cut short, which gives the poem an unfinished mysterious quality. 'La Belle Dame Sans Merci' means a beautiful merciless women; this immediately tells us straight away that this poem has a negative view on love because the woman is described as 'merciless'. In the poem the woman convinces the knight that she is in love with him, just like he is in love with her when really she isn't, 'And I awoke and found me here, Or on the cold hill side'. This is obviously a harsh thing to do, something that someone would not do to someone else if they were in love. In the poem there are references to illness and death, 'I see a lily on the brow' the lily and the knight's brow represents death. The knight is ill because of his love for the woman. This concludes that Keats presents love as destructive and potentially fatal if not returned.

appreciation of meaning and insert into writer's copy.

Ballads, in general, are often very sad, and present a depressing view on love. The poem tells the story of a young, innocent girl who has slept with a shepherd, whom she is in love with. The shepherd leaves the girl, pregnant. Out of all the poems, this one probably has the most negative view on love, due to its harsh story. In the opening line we hear of 'A faithless shepherd', and this straight away tells us that there is going to be a disloyal man in the poem. The repetition used in the poem shows the girl's regret for sleeping with the shepherd in the first place. The poet uses seasons to convey the change in love, which is similar to 'La Belle Dame' when the poem is set in autumn and things are dying and suffering. The Pathetic Fallacy used in both poems helps to portray the mood and atmosphere.

Technical language used

quite needed.

'Sonnet 116' is very different to the other poems, as it has a positive view on love. It is written in a straight forward way about emotional-not physical love, 'love is constant, it can't be changed, if it is true love'. This is telling us that love can't be changed. The passion of this perfect love is discussed with a disciplined sonnet structure. The structure is very controlled; this makes the passionate emotion of love seem stronger because it is being restrained. The poem begins with words which echo the church marriage service, 'Let me not to the marriage of true minds admit impediments' the words 'true minds' convey that Shakespeare is referring to emotional rather than physical love. Shakespeare links love to the North Star; conveying that true love is reliable, unchanging and can support you or guide you when you are lost.

Appreciation of meaning

'First Love' written by John Clare, begins with the poet being 'struck' by love, but then in the final verse he is feeling rejected and unworthy of the woman he has fallen in love with. The poem has a negative view on love. The poet has clearly fallen in love with a woman, he seems very doubtful that she is even aware he is there, 'Are flowers the winter's choice?' Although this last line of the poem gives a very negative impression, this does not mean the whole poem gives a negative view on love. The first two lines describes that the man has simply just fallen in love, this is neither good nor bad for all we know at that point 'The trees and bushes around the place, seemed midnight at mid day.' These lines show us how love can change how the world around us appears, this links to the 'Ballad' and 'La Belle Dame' where the lovers experience of love has changed their lives. In 'La Belle Dame' the Knight is left waiting to die and in 'Ballad' the girl wishes herself and her baby under the 'clay'. So in comparison to 'La Belle Dame' and 'Ballad' this poem is does not give such a depressing view on love.

The poem 'Did this happen to your mother? Did your sister throw up a lot?' is a much more recent poem compared to the other five. But like all of the others with exception of 'Sonnet 116' the poem conveys a negative view on love. The opening line 'I love a man who is not worth my love' first of all tells us the poem is from a woman's point of view, as is 'Ballad' which was in my opinion the most depressing of the 5, this opening sentence also tells us straight away that the poem is about a man who has obviously betrayed or hurt the woman in some kind of way which is also like 'Ballad'. As the poem goes on she begins to talk about hiding pain 'biting your tongue purple rather than speak' this suggests that the woman may have been abused by the man, and she either doesn't know how to deal with it or fear makes her suppress her instinct to speak out. The next verse is only one quick short sentence 'Love has made me sick' when we read this simple, monosyllabic phrase we imagine her shouting it as if she is angry, and it's something that cannot be changed now.

Love is presented very differently in the poems. Most of the poets view love as a domestic emotion, especially when love is only felt by one person in the relationship. However, Shakespeare presents love as unchangeable and positive. All the poets use images of nature when love is being discussed because, whether it ends badly or well, love is something that is natural.

do you need to explain?

20/30 For comment, see attached.

Script 2.

The requirement for 6 poems is met.

The response displays a sound knowledge of all the poems. The candidate has offered some personal comments. There is an appreciation of the meaning of the poems and there are some quite insightful comments on the writers' craft. Links are made between the poems. The use of textual references is selective, although not all comments are supported by quotations. This is a confident, succinct and relevant response fulfilling the requirements of the 19-22 range.

Centre mark: 20 Moderated/standardised mark 21

SCRIPT 3:

Explain the preambulation of the child's life in the poem, "A Mother in a Refugee Camp" and "Mother to her child (three translations)?"

A good poem chosen
 Mother to her child (three translations) is about a mother who love the child so much, but she is poor. And she say that "Some would like to place you on a camel blanket, but your are mine" this shows that even though she poor and some wants to take her baby and give it a good living she would just love to have her baby on her near a torn old mat. This poem is about a mother who loves the child even though they she has difficults in liver she shows love to her child. The poem has one stanza that has seven lines, for the first translations, The second one has seven and the last one has nine lines.

For the poem "A Mother in a Refugee Camp" is written by Chinua Achebe, has one stanza with 20 lines. "A mother in a Refugee camp is about a child very poor childhood of the children in the camp. There was lack of food at the camp, children got sick and how they booke say shows how the children were in a bad state." "The air was heavy with odors of diarrhed." This show how the camp site smelled of diarrhea which means that the child suffed from the sick of diarrhea.

life in our village (MARKWEI MARTIE, Ghana)

The poem life in our village is about culture that both boys and girls had to follow at that time. Some of the rules that they were to keep was that "Boys must not look at girls" and girls should not look at the boys. This was because their elders say that it was not good when the night came the "Boys must play separately, and girls must play separately. This culture was done in the olden times for the youth. This would make the youth not to evade or find them self doing things that would mess up their life e.g early sex this was one of the things that made the elders put or come up with this rules. But humanity is weak," this show how keeping up with this boys and girls not meeting was so hard to keep up. So late on the

poem we find out that the boys and the girls meet. How? By play a game called hide and seek. This was the only time that the boys and girls meet. Boys would go hide where the girls were and the girls would run to where the boys were, and they would sing songs of love to each other. Poem has three stanzas, The first stanza has six lines. The second has five lines, the third one has eight lines. Poem is just about how the children were brought up in different ways.

very interesting
culture background

very dramatic and romantic

On the Mother to her child (three translations) is more of a mother that has things to take of her child but she is poor. And she cares about her child "she wishes you were hers, but you are mine" This shows the love between the mother to child.

But in the poem A mother in a Refugee Camp is more of the child is sick and the mother does not show much consent on the child. "Other mothers there, Had long ceased to care, but not this one." This shows that the mothers had lost hope in taken care of their children. The poem Mother to her child is one stanza but it is translated in three ways and the poem A mother in a Refugee Camp is one stanza with know any other translations.

Both poems have shown how poor they are both. In the poem A mother in a Refugee camp puts like "she had bathed him and rubbed him down with bare palms. She took

from their bundle of possessions A broken comb and combed" This shows how poor the child at the camp were, they did not have anything to shower with but the palm of her mother for the other poem Mother to her child show "But you are mine, to lay on my poor ragged mat" this show the state of the poor child's family. But the body is ok, not sick like the children of the Refugee Camp.

Piano (D.H. Lawrence)

Piano is a poem about childhood. This is because the poet takes us back to his past to tell us how he spent his own childhood.

poet tells us how he would sit under the piano and how he was to listen to the hymns. The poem Piano has three stanzas. In the first stanza there are six lines the second stanza there are four and the fourth stanza three five lines.

Short sentences are used in the poem "My manhood is cast". Lines of the poem are almost the same length, except for the short lines, four and six for effect. The poem is somewhat content, a man remembers his childhood sitting. And he also remembers how he used to hide under the piano.

This can also give us an image that the poet is missing his childhood. And how he missed hiding under the piano. A man

must probably the poet (D.H.) Lawrence is speaking to narrates the story about his childhood. Rhyme is used in the poem "Mr and See, Outside and guide." But Rhythm is same throughout the poem. The tone and the mood of the poem, the poet feels alone alone in the poem that's who he/she sits under the piano. The poet uses descriptive language used "I weep like a child for the past".

Half-part two is a poem by U.A. Fanthorpe. The poem has two themes their is theme for childhood and theme for time. I will be see what the poem is about the theme childhood. The poem is about a boy who was and unable to tell time. He only know some times that he would do some of his things like "Gettinguptime, timeyouwereofftime, Time to go home now time, Tutime, Time for my kiss time (that was Grant time), From this aspect of things this shows how small the boy was not know how to read time but just knows his daily routine. Since the child does not know how to tell time so the child stay for a longer time in the school.

The poem has evelen stanzors, 1 their are three lines each, the lines and stanzors are almost the same length. Their is of descriptive writing "He knew the clockface, the little eyes And two long legs for walking." the clock has being de talked about how the child saw it looks like. Their is the use of short sententi. "Time for my kiss time" this shows how the poem small the child was from the way mixes his words.

received 10/04/15

Comments on social and historical context
 - Some exciting engagement with context although weakened by language handicap
 - Good choice of poems
 - Should quote more from poems

13/30

Script 3.

The requirement for 6 poems is not met. Only five poems are discussed. The candidate looks with some detail at the content of all the poems. However, the approach is narrative with little in the way of analysis or discussing links and comparisons. Comments are not really supported by quotations or closer references to the texts. Insufficient depth, development and analytical detail for the folder to be in the 11 – 14 band. The response is more within the 7-10 range and 3 marks were taken off for not fulfilling the requirements.

Centre mark: 13 Moderated/standardised mark 7

SCRIPT 4:

How do the poems 'My Last Duchess', 'Mother in a Refugee Camp' and 'War Photographer' and three others that you have read, explore the idea of Death and Loss in some form and three others that you have read?



The poems 'My Last Duchess' by Robert Browning, 'Mother in a Refugee Camp' by Chinua Achebe and 'War Photographer' by Carol Ann Duffy, all describe some form of death and loss. 'My Last Duchess' is about the death of young bride by her controlling husband who is jealous of her beauty and innocence. He uses death to possess her by hiding her portrait behind a curtain where only he can see it. 'Mother in Refugee Camp' is about maternal loss and the normality of her previous life is contrasted with the loss of the mother's child, due to the devastating effects of starvation. 'War Photographer' is about a traumatised photographic journalist who has seen horrific aspects of war and is now developing the pictures for a newspaper. He has absorbed death and he has been affected by the suffering he has seen and he questions whether his photos will make any difference in helping the victims.

clear, purposeful sense of overview.

In 'War Photographer', throughout the whole poem Duffy has set the photographer in a dark room, this is a good place to set the photographer as it shows how distressed he is after his time photographing the devastating effects of war. We know this because one of the opening phrases is 'In his darkroom' where 'he is finally alone'. The emphasis on 'finally alone' highlights that he is glad to be in the safety and solitude of his workshop. This contrasts with the war zones of 'Belfast. Beirut. Phnom Penh.' Which were all areas of severe conflict, terror and noise. On one hand his 'darkroom' is described 'as a church and he a priest preparing to intone a Mass'. This religious reference highlights the peace in his 'darkroom' and also the important role that his occupation plays in presenting the truth to

why good?

we know what? INSIGHTFUL COMMENT

Effective quotation and some appreciation of meaning.

society. On the other hand the 'darkroom' contains 'spools of suffering set out in ordered rows'. This image of pain reminds us of a funeral mass and emphasises that the photographer's job is to record and report on the deaths that war brings. By using the contrast between the 'darkroom' and the war zones Duffy reveals that the War Photographer is in a dark place mentally and this is exposed as the poem progresses. In terms of structure, 'War Photographer' is tight and uses soft and abrupt words to get across the picture of what the photographer saw when he was photographing the scenes of war. Duffy's use of soft phrases is shown in echoing the uneasy juxtaposition of 'spools of suffering' in 'neatly ordered rows'. Suffering is abstract, and cannot be neatly controlled. 'Ordered rows' evokes mass wartime burials, or piles of bodies, neatly sorted after some atrocity. The mood is made slightly awkward through the rich and sensual sounds of sibilants and long syllables in 'spools' and 'suffering', this also emphasises how awful war is and how many people become victims of death. Each stanza is perfectly regular, four of six lines, with a perfectly regular rhyme scheme, with a neat couplet to end each line - and is almost iambic pentameter, this makes it very easy to read and steady, so you can take in the information in the poem. Duffy uses a wide range of techniques in her poem in order to demonstrate the themes such as the effects of war and death. She uses the main character of the photographer to convey the trauma caused by witnessing such intense

Does it?

Sensitive and well-informed appreciation of meaning.

Situations that need developing

How?

human suffering. Duffy uses the photographer's experience to voice her own criticism toward how we all look at pictures of suffering, but do not know the reality. Duffy has certainly got the point across, through the poem.

Points could be expanded a little further

In the poem 'Mother in a Refugee Camp' is written in free verse, with no particular rhyme scheme. The stanza lengths differ. The first stanza is short compared to the other stanzas.

Why?

P

There is enjambement used such as in the first stanza, to produce The opening line of 'madonna and child' emphasises the purity and love that this mother and child have and

Purpose?

this makes the knowledge that the child is dying more poignant. The poet uses imagery

P. such as odours of diarrhoea and washed out ribs, tells the reader that the children are starving and ill and death is close for many of them. The mothers in the poem 'ceased to care' but this one still has 'a mother's pride'. This makes me think that all the mothers have given up hope because they know their child will not survive, but this mother wants to make the most of what time she has left with her son. The contrast between life and death is explored through the image of the mother sending her child to school after breakfast previously and her current life which shows her looking after her child knowing that she can do nothing to save him. Words like 'tenderness' juxtaposed with 'soon' and 'forget' create a gentle mood of suffering. The poem 'A Mother in a Refugee Camp' has no breaks or interruptions as if we're slowly coming to terms with the slow suffering of the child. The death is inevitable and the structure helps to show this. The death in this poem is shown in a very soft way, it seems as though the mother is being very calm about the situation even though she knows what the future holds. In most of the poem, the day to day horrors of the camp are presented metaphorically with plosives 'blown out bellies' and 'diarrhoea'. This gives the imminent death a more vicious tone. The list creates a sense of the profusion of suffering: of 'washed out ribs' balanced with 'unwashed bodies'. The last line 'on a tiny grave' shows connotations of death ending the poem with the word "grave" and the

sensitive appreciation of meaning

punctuation makes the poem more morbid and seems feeble. The word 'tiny' highlights the helpless victims who have died of starvation. This therefore links back to the word 'Refugee' in the title. *Does it?*

'My Last Duchess' by Robert Browning is a dramatic monologue where a duke tells the story of his previous wife to his messenger who is negotiating his next marriage. The duke is proud of his painting of his last duchess and allows the messenger to view it. The monologue builds it up into the shocking revelation that the duke had her murdered.

However, he seems to have no understanding (he is almost slightly naive) and does not think he has done anything wrong and this makes her death all the more horrific. The words Browning uses such as 'dies', 'fool' and 'disgust', ~~these three words~~ ^{SP} shadow the duchess's grim fate, said [?] by the duke. The ionic pentameters [?] are fitting for the duke as this lightly traditional and sophisticated poetic form, reflects his pompous attitude and his values of heritage and historical tradition. This makes it seem as though the duke is [?] ashamed of his duchess and therefore does not think she is worth keeping as a wife. This attitude that the duke has towards his wife it makes it obvious he would not have trouble finding another wife. The duchess has not been named as there may have been several other wives, he is referring to the 'last' duchess. This might mean that he has done the same to many of the duchesses he has married as he is probably a very jealous duke.

Is he?

Does it?

Why?

Answers of how shapes meaning

KNOWLEDGE OF POETRY COULD BE MORE SECURE.

The question?

In the poem 'Blackberry Picking' by Seamus Heaney, Heaney used free verse, everyday and matter of fact language. He looks back in first person, his point of view, in past tense. There is no clear rhythm except from lines 3, 4. Heaney depicts a sense of love [?] for the blackberries when he mentions 'We trekked and packed until the cans were full', this shows that they would be prepared to travel quite a distance to pick these blackberries

Setting?

Exp?

because they were so tasty and they wanted to get as many as possible. At the end of the poem Heaney says 'The fruit fermented', 'I always felt like crying', these phrases show that Heaney loved the fruit so much that when the season was over, he was so sad that the berries had gone rotten, because he loved the 'sweet' taste of them and would have to wait another year till they would grow again. Even though toward the end of the poem there is a huge sense of loss it is not the death of a living thing like in 'Porphyria's Lover', 'Mother in a Refugee Camp' or 'War Photographer', the loss and death of something is shown.

Exp?

The real meaning it?

P. In 'Porphyria's Lover' by Robert Browning, we get a sense of the real danger which women can be in if men do not treat them with care. Porphyria obviously trusts her lover, for example 'She put my arm about her waist'. This does put Porphyria in the position of being vulnerable to him, so that she is killed, 'I wound three times her little throat around'. After

the death there is a clustering of words that suggest sensory detail, which makes the whole situation bleakly ironic, for the reader can sense what is coming. This is the same as

P. in Blackberry picking when they talk about how the blackberries looked after they had gone mouldy and when in 'Porphyria's Lover' when 'smiling rosy little head'. It also is very

P. similar to Browning's other poem 'My Last Duchess' as both are lovers and both Porphyria's lover and the duke kill the woman to whom they are in a relationship with.

P. In the poem Piano by D. H. Lawrence the poet translates the song as negative because it takes him immediately to his childhood and his sense of loss returns. This poem is very dark and deep as he remembers the happy things and then all of a sudden it turns to the bad things of his past, which was a very unhappy one. This is similar to 'Mother in a Refugee Camp' because he is talking about his past and would obviously do anything to change it. 'Her tenderness for a son'. In 'Mother in a Refugee Camp' the mother cannot go

back and change what is happening and what situation she is in with her child and therefore they have both felt death and lose, just one is past and one present.

Each poem shows loss and convey scenes of death and suffering. They all use metaphors similes and juxtaposition. Even though each poem means something completely different they all come down to death and how death has happened. They all build up to the death and this means their has been a loss. Each death is very different. In 'Blackberry Picking' it is shown in the blackberries dying at the end of the season, this is sad for the boy. In 'Mother In a Refugee Camp' it is shown in her child being severely malnourished and

therefore dying, this is sad for the mother of the child in the camp. In 'War Photographer' this is shown in how the photographer has gone to take pictures at war and how he saw suffering and people dying, this has caused him to be emotionally depressed. In 'My Last Duchess', the duke kills his wife and continues his day to day life without a care in the world. Each of the poems indicate a sense of death and loss, even in very different ways they certainly all relate to one another.

You've shown a sound understanding on the whole, [redacted] You've included only relevant material, though greater depth of analysis would be of benefit. There is some appreciation of language and style evident, demonstrating engagement and you've offered personal opinions. Closer attention to detail would have enhanced your response, as would improved technical accuracy. Also, avoid making unsubstantiated claims (see notes).

Band

Moderated

19/30

Moderated 20.4.2015

THE CANDIDATE DEMONSTRATES ENGAGEMENT WITH THE POEMS.
AN APPRECIATION OF POETS' USE OF LANGUAGE IS DEVELOPING.

Script 4.

The requirement for 6 poems is met. Sound knowledge of the poems and are clear understanding are evident in this response. There is some personal engagement and an appreciation of how language features are used to effect. However, not all comments are supported by textual references and overall the response lacks any detailed analysis. Fulfills the criteria for a mark within the lower end of the 19 - 22 mark range, rather than the higher which is looking for a more sustained piece of work with some confident and insightful responses.

Centre mark: 19 Moderated/standardised mark 19

SCRIPT 5:

Several Poems in the anthology present victims. Explore their presentation, referring to three poems in detail and to at least three other poems from your wider reading.

Victimhood is depicted in a number of different ways in poetry and it is through the power of poetry that the plight of different people is amplified and gains a sympathetic audience. In some circumstances it can lead to real cultural and political change. In the poem 'Mother in a Refugee Camp' by Chinua Achebe, the speaker talks about the anguish of a mother whose young child is dying in the austere setting of a refugee camp. He presents the mother as the victim of war and famine, whose great suffering is ignored by the society around her. In 'War Photographer' by Carol Ann Duffy, the speaker discusses the immense suffering of victims of war in comparison to those who live in suburban comfort and think only fleetingly of suffering in remote places. 'My Last Duchess' by Robert Browning is a dramatic monologue which depicts not the collective victimhood but that of an individual, who is murdered by her obsessive and controlling husband. These poems highlight the powerful plight of the victims in different ways.

Scarcely and sophisticated sense of overview.

In Duffy's 'War Photographer', the narrator is developing his photographs for a newspaper in England. The speaker reflects on how little suffering is undergone by the readers in rural England compared to the people of his photos. Duffy uses contrasts to emphasise the innocence of those affected by war, she compares the photographer developing his photos to a priest at a mass, writing 'as though this were a church and he a priest preparing to intone a

Candidate Num: [REDACTED]

Word Count: 1,702

Making critical underlining

Mass'. This analogy of a church adds a religious dimension to the poem; it compares his actions to mourning as might be found at a funeral. There are four stanzas in the poem, each ending with a rhyming couplet, each couplet being the conclusion of the stanza's argument. The writer uses enjambment to emphasise the contrast made: the run-on effect of the lines reflect the terror and pandemonium of children running from exploding bombs. Another

Purpose of structure.

Familiarity with technical vocabulary

effect used by the writer to emphasise the theme of vulnerability is metaphors, an example of this is 'All flesh is grass'; this conveys the vulnerability of the people affected by wars. It depicts the people as dispensable like grass which contrasts with the peaceful lands of England where grass is dispensable. Also, this is a reference from the Bible; the quote is often read out at funerals and memorials and so aids us to think that the writer is mourning them.

In the poem 'Two Scavengers in a Truck, Two Beautiful People in a Mercedes' the speaker watches two sets of people at some traffic lights on a normal morning in San Francisco. The speaker highlights their differences which point out the inequalities between them and by this argues that the 'Scavengers' are the victims of society. The men in the garbage truck are called 'Scavengers' to emphasise how they are the lowest form of society. By describing them so, he compares them to the scavengers of the animal kingdom and how they feed off the left-overs that the predators leave behind. This demonstrates that they are victims of

Necessity how of structure shapes meaning

society as well as poverty. The structure of the poem is used to highlight the vast expanse that lies between the rich and the poor; the layout of the poem looks like a road in which there is a line separating the two cars at traffic lights. This helps us to see Ferlinghetti's argument, that it is society that sets up and enforces the barriers that separates the rich and poor. Ferlinghetti connects the people to their vehicles to reflect their wealth further, an example of this is when one of the garbage men is described as having 'grey iron hair', the use of 'iron' connects him

to the truck as it is likely to be made of cheap old metals such as iron.

In Achebe's poem 'A Mother in a Refugee Camp', the poet uses several tools and technical effects to create an intense and powerful image of war and death. The poem starts by comparing the Madonna and Child to the mother with her dying son. The idea of the Madonna and Child is personal, it is God made personal and democratic – this is the power of the image. This idea is available to anyone, whoever and wherever they are and whether they have a name or not – that universality makes her story universal and we all, therefore, feel it. Yet, 'Madonna and Child' are far more important and well-known than the mother in the title, this makes it personal, Achebe deems it more powerful than the classic religious image. Throughout the poem Achebe gives the mother no name or identity, only that she is in a bleak and miserable refugee camp. The title 'A Mother in a Refugee Camp' creates the idea that she is one of many powerless mothers with dying children, so giving a name would make it personal to one mother and create a far less powerful image of this struggle for life. The writer uses ellipsis to create emphasis on the point just made, 'She soon will have to forget...'. This describes how the mother's young child is dying and causes us to linger on the line, considering the tragic situation. Achebe uses metaphors to add impact and better describe the images he presents to us of victims; an example of this is 'She held a ghost smile between her teeth'. This metaphor suggests how unnatural the death of her child is, and reflects a supernatural and uneasy mood, reinforcing the wider despair the poem elicits.

In the poem 'Do not go gentle into that Good Night' by Dylan Thomas we are presented with victims of death. In this poem the speaker talks to his father begging him not to give up on life, and live as long as possible, there is a sense of urgency caused by the commands used.

The speaker says 'Rage, rage against the dying of the light', this repetition adds emphasis to the speaker's wishes for his father, the use of 'dying of the light' metaphor equating his father's life with light, and as the light fades so does his father's life. The poem is written in strict form of villanelle, the poem having five stanzas with each line in iambic pentameters. The structure and form of this poem helps to emphasise the restriction of the father's life as he dies and weakens.

In the poem 'My Last Duchess' by Robert Browning, the speaker, an aristocratic duke, entertains an emissary, who has come to negotiate the duke's new marriage. The writer

Focused interpretation of meaning.

Of course?
Clarify meaning
Sensitive approach of writing

Depth?

presents victims of death and society in this poem as the duke's last duchess was cruelly murdered due to his obsession of power and control. The 'last duchess' in this poem is a victim of society and death; she reflects the lack of power and influence that women of the time had. The rhyming couplets of iambic pentameters are fitting for the duke as this highly traditional and sophisticated poetic form reflects his pompous attitude and his values of his historical traditions and cultural heritage. The omission of the duchess' name helps to emphasise her lack of power and low status, the speaker refers to her throughout the poem as 'my last duchess', 'she', 'her' and 'my lady' to show the duke's inability to humanise his wife and his obsession of controlling her. Furthermore, the duke has curtains over the

*Annotations
shows
structure
shows
meaning*

painting of his 'last duchess' to emphasise his discipline over her as he can now control who sees her. The writer uses language techniques to emphasise the victimhood of the duchess, the poet writes 'Notice Neptune' to draw attention to his artwork, this highlights the fact that his 'last duchess' is now an object rather than a woman, and thus the Duke equates himself with Neptune's absolute authority.

Depth

Enough detail for a main poem?

Another Browning poem, 'Porphyria's Lover', presents us with an authoritative and controlling man, where his obsessive nature eventually distorts his mind to the extent that he murders his lover. Porphyria, in this poem, is the victim of death and obsessive love. The narrator, who is Porphyria's lover, is awaiting her arrival and his use of the pronoun 'my' to describe her, shows that he considers himself her owner, which to obsession with power and control. The poet uses metaphor to paint the picture of the narrator's warped brain, such as 'I listened with heart fit to break', showing that he thinks he will be physically injured if his lover does not arrive soon.

*Evidence
of insight
into
language
and
style*

Detail?

In conclusion, victims are shown in a number of ways throughout the anthology; in the poems 'Mother in a Refugee Camp' and 'War Photographer' we are presented with victims of war and society. The mother in Achebe's poem is ignored by society and she and her child have been affected by war and political strains. In the poem 'War Photographer' the speaker contrasts between the people in England who are safe to those affected by war and chaos and how they are ignored by society. In the poem 'Two Scavengers in a Truck, Two Beautiful People in a Mercedes' we are presented with two contrasting sets of people, the poorer men in the poem are garbage men, they represent victims of society and poverty, the writer contrasts the rich couple and the poor couple to emphasise the lack of equality between them.

While in the poem 'My Last Duchess' we are presented with a victim of society, death and power, the duchess in this poem is the victim as she is killed purely due to the fact that the duke is obsessed with authority, and the fact that she respects everyone angers him so she is killed. Likewise in the poem 'Porphyria's Lover' we are also presented with an authoritative and controlling man, and eventually this obsession distorts his mind to the extent that he murders his lover. Porphyria is the victim of obsessive and possessive love. This is principally illustrated by the narrator's use of the pronoun 'my' to describe her, showing that he considers himself her owner.

You've shown quite a detailed knowledge of the poems and only relevant material has been included. You write with a sensitive, well-informed understanding and appreciation of meaning. There is also evidence of personal insights and familiarity with technical vocabulary. At times greater depth would have enhanced your response (see notes) as would greater detail to clarify meaning and evidence your claims.

Band 3 / 22



Script 5.

The requirement for 6 poems is met. The candidate has shown a detailed knowledge of the texts. There is a sound understanding of the writers' craft and comments are supported by relevant and carefully chosen references. There is evidence of personal insight and there is familiarity with technical terms and their effect on the meaning of the texts. The response is not always developed and some comments would need greater clarification. However,

there is a clear focus in the response and the initial mark is a bit severe. The response fulfils the criteria for a 23-26 band

Centre mark: 22 Moderated/Standardised mark: 24

SCRIPT 6:

SCRIPT 6
 Several poems in the anthology present victims. Explore their presentation, referring to three poems in detail and to at least three other poems from your wider reading.

In the poems "My Last Duchess" by Robert Browning, "A Mother in a Refugee Camp" by Chinua Achebe and "War Photographer" by Carol Ann Duffy, each poet expresses different forms of victimhood. In his poem, Browning explores the tragic story of the duchess who is a victim of possessive love and disturbed male pride. The poet portrays an unsettling mood through the disturbed mind of the speaker, which is further emphasised by his condescending tone and no hint of remorse at murdering his own wife, which creates an alarmed feeling in the reader. In his poem, Achebe explores a different form of victimhood, through the situation of a poor and dispossessed mother caring for her child in a refugee camp. The mood emphasises hopelessness and a sense of despair as it seems there is nothing the mother can do to save her child or herself. Duffy's poem depicts victims of war in far away places, including soldiers and civilians. There is particular focus on the comfortable lives lived in suburban England compared to the horrific reality of war zones overseas.

In the poem "My Last Duchess", Robert Browning uses the technique of dramatic monologue to create the persona of the speaker who is the duke. In the poem the duke shows an emissary a painting of his late wife and, in doing so, reveals he has had her killed. The duchess was victimised

only because she did not fulfil the expectation of a devoted wife that the duke wanted from her. The duke is a collector of art and he objectifies women, seeing them more as his beautiful collection of objects than as human beings. This is shown by his words; 'my last Duchess painted on the wall' where the use of the adjective 'last' conveys to the reader that she is just one of many innocent victims and emphasises that because of the duke's actions she now only exists as part of his collection. The speaker is very powerful and tries to control his wife in death as he tried to in life; this is shown through him saying, 'none puts by the curtain I have drawn for you, but I.' The duke gave orders to have his wife killed since the duchess was victimised only because of her nature that is too easily pleased by others and she did not value the duke's nine hundred year old name. This is suggested through the form of the dramatic monologue when he says 'I gave commands; then all

Strong sense of outcries and purpose

Sanitised were informed understanding

smiles stopped'. The metaphor 'Half-flush that dies along her throat' creates the image of the duchess blushing and the use of the verb 'dies' creates an eerie foreshadowing of what is later to come in the poem. Even though we only hear the Duke's side of events through his dramatic monologue, Browning makes the reader feel empathy for the Duchess as she is an innocent victim.

familiar with technical vocabulary

insight into use of language and style

Achebe's poem 'A Mother in a Refugee Camp' is about maternal love. Achebe captures the tenderness of the situation through the use of third person narrator so it seems as if the reader is witnessing a private moment between the mother and child. This consequently evokes pathos in the reader as both mother and son are victims of conflict and find themselves in a hopeless situation where both are slowly dying and there is nothing she can do to prevent it. Achebe uses the metaphor of 'ghost smile', which has connotations of the supernatural and emphasises how the child is near to death. It suggests that even though the child is dying the mother still smiles at the thought of how other mothers have given up hope and disregarded their children, but not her, she still cares and loves for her own child. The use of the simile, 'like putting flowers on an empty grave' creates a powerful image and evokes a melancholy mood for the reader emphasising how, through

Seemingly engagement with poem

well explained

the mother's daily routine, she is seeing her child dying slowly with the 'flowers' symbolising the love she has for her child and 'an empty grave' representing a death ritual that soon will become a reality. Both mother and son are victims of circumstance through war and conflict and are powerless to do anything about it.

Sophisticated appreciation of use of language

'Victimisation'

The poem "War Photographer" is set in the photographer's printing room where he develops the prints he has taken of the war. Victimisation runs prominently through this poem capturing the loss of soldiers and civilians due to the war and conflict. This poem is similar to Achebe's poem because both victims are being affected by war and conflict and there is a sombre, despondent mood in both poems. Duffy creates the character of the War Photographer through writing the poem in third person and creates the sense of despair and regret, though through the use of third person depicts the bitterness and anger in which the War Photographer is feeling. The description "with spools and

Develop point

How?

suffering set out in ordered rows' is an echo of grave stones, reminding the reader of the victims and casualties of war. The description of the war zones in recent history "Belfast, Beirut, Phnom Penh" is structured in single word sentences to emphasise and urge the reader to pause and consider the dead who have fought courageously in wars or have just been innocent victims from it. The metaphor "All flesh is grass" chillingly depicts the extreme vulnerability of people in areas of conflict and war and how dispensable they are. The structure of the poem emphasises the point that war is terrible and even people not directly affected should care. The rhyming couplet at the end of each stanza is used to conclude an argument and moves from a series of reflections to a distinct conclusion. The metaphor "started to twist before his eyes, a half-formed ghost" suggests that like a ghost the image is transparent and clear while the picture develops. The reader's focus on the word "ghost" associates it with death. Victimisation runs strongly through this poem which presents the losses of soldiers and innocent people who have died in areas of conflict and war.

*Explaining technical terms ✓
to read conclusion?*

Analysis of structure shaping meaning

"Porphyria's Lover" by Robert Browning, is similar to "My Last Duchess" and is also written as a dramatic monologue, making the poem utterly compelling as the reader is drawn into the story that the narrator is telling. Porphyria was victimised because her lover wanted to preserve the moment and her love for him and by killing her she would not age or be unfaithful to him. The personification in the phrase "The sullen wind was soon awake" the poet employs pathetic fallacy to contrast the

similarities between the speaker and the weather. The use of the adjective "sullen" also implies that the storm was very gloomy and sombre, but the fact that he uses personification suggests the instability of the speaker's mind and how he was waiting anxiously for his lover to return to him. Browning also uses repetition of "that moment she was mine, mine, fair" to refer to him wanting control over Porphyria. The poem links back to victimisation and how he killed her to claim her as his own and personal property forever. The use of exclamations marks for example 'And yet God has not said a word!' reveals the narrator's exhilaration and enjoyment from the murder he commits. This becomes very alarming and disturbing when the reader finds out that he is only excited and pleased once he spent the whole night with her corpse and this is seen through the line ' And all

Clarify

insight into language shaping meaning

[Redacted line]

night long we have not stirred.' This links back to the title since the poem is about Porphyria who was an innocent victim of disturbed possessive love.

The poem "Nothing's Changed" by Tatamkhulu Afrika is an autobiographical poem. Unlike Porphyria's Lover this poem describes a different type of victimisation through the discrimination of races. Afrika is writing about the injustice of the apartheid because of the repressive political regime in District Six. The poem is set out in six stanzas each of eight fairly short lines and the poet is clear about what he is feeling and believes nothing has changed. The title "Nothing's Changed" also suggests that the apartheid was meant to be over but when he returned to his home country it clearly wasn't. When Afrika uses the simile "name flaring like a flag" to describe the "White's only inn" it suggests that the Whites have declared war on the people of colour and have marked their land and territory where the blacks were not allowed. The personified phrase, "Hands burn," suggests Afrika's anger about his race being victims because of the colour of their skin. The objects in the restaurant that signify wealth, for example "crushed ice white glass", "linen falls" and "the single rose" are used to show what the whites have in their life contrasted with the blacks. The line "and the soft labouring of my lungs" emphasises what a hard and gruelling life these people have because they are judged because of their race.

Notional Texts

Selling?

The poem "Two Scavengers in a Truck, Two Beautiful People in a Mercedes" by Lawrence Ferlinghetti is about an incident, in which two pairs of people- two garbage men and a glamorous

couple- pull up next to each other at a set of traffic lights. This poem is similar to "Nothing's Changed", since they both express victimisation through society and explore how people are judged by their appearance. Victimhood runs through this poem and is presented by how one side of society sees the other side as 'scavengers' and looks down upon them since they are more disadvantaged. This is described in the metaphor 'scavengers', which is used to describe the garbage men as people see them. These men have to work long hard hours and undertake filthy work, so in result are more looked down upon than others. This is also backed up by the simile "gargoyle

Quasimodo" which is used to describe one of the garbage men and suggests that he is ugly and deformed. The young beautiful woman is described as 'blond', which has connotations of golden and flaxen suggesting a more luxurious and wealthy lifestyle and is in contrast to the garbage man who has "grey iron hair", with the word "grey" symbolising old age and lifelessness. The poem also emphasises the huge difference that exists between the rich and poor despite the "American Dream."

Confident analysis

To conclude, I think victimhood runs prominently through these poems in different ways. Achebe and Duffy's poems both relate to victims of conflict and war, whereas Browning's poems focus more on murder and victimhood of disturbed male desires. Ferlinghetti and Afrika's poem describe victimisation through people's different appearance for example being coloured. Furthermore, each

poet conveys the circumstances and obstacles leading to victimhood and all express a point to the reader, making them ponder over what the speaker has told them and the situation they are in. All poets express their unique idea of victimisation in different ways and this gives the readers different perspectives and views on the victims.

There's some sensitive, well-informed understanding here, [redacted] and you've shown a good working knowledge of the poems - only relevant material has been included. At times your appreciation of language is sophisticated sometimes greater depth and clarity would be of benefit; some reasons of technical accuracy to consider and greater focus on setting when you introduced 'Nothing's Changed' would have enhanced your response. Nevertheless, this is a really good response.

Moderated ~~22~~ 22

Script 6.

The requirement for 6 poems has been met. This is quite a confident response in which the candidate demonstrates familiarity with all six poems. There is some well informed understanding and some personal engagement with some insightful comments. These are supported by carefully chosen textual references. There is enough to see this response in the top end of the 23-26 band. However it lacks sufficient depth to be in the next band up.
Centre mark: 22 Moderated/standardised mark 26

SCRIPT 7:

Explore how different poets treat the subject of death, referring to *Sonnet 116*, *War Photographer*, and *A Mother in a Refugee Camp* and to at least three other poems from your wider reading.

The subject of death can be treated in many ways. It is usually seen as very common yet very powerful and dark. However, in *Sonnet 116* by William Shakespeare, the persona is convinced that they can conquer death by the power of words. In *War Photographer*, by Carol Ann Duffy, the voice expresses the horror of conflict in pictures, and the apathy of the general public towards death. In *A Mother in a Refugee Camp*, the persona expresses the sorrow that a mother feels for her dying child, and expresses the ambiguity of whether the child is dead or dying.

Clear
Areas
of
Ownership

FOCUSED ON THE INTEREST

Sonnet 116 by William Shakespeare is structured in the form of a Shakespearian sonnet, which is traditionally used for love poems. It is made up of three quatrains and a rhyming couplet. Every line has 10 syllables, and it has firm iambic pentameter. Its structure is very rigid, which could reflect on the unwavering confidence with which the voice of the poem speaks. The voice is very defiant where it speaks with absolute confidence that true love is unalterable regardless of what is

thrown in its path. It even challenges the reader to disprove the poem; "If this be error and upon me proved, /I never writ, nor no man ever loved." This makes the reader take the persona's side, as they know that a man has definitely loved before.

TRAGICAL
EXPERIENCE OF
HOW SEVERE
CAN INFLUENCE
MEANING

Sonnet 116 also uses imagery to put across its message. William Shakespeare writes the metaphor "marriage of true minds". This suggests that when two "true" people meet, then they are bound together eternally. "True minds" suggests that not everyone can achieve this. Shakespeare also writes that "though rosy lips and cheeks /Within his bending sickle's compass come; /Love...bears it out even to the edge of

doom." This implies that even though beauty fades with time and death comes to all, ^{Exp.} love will last until the even the end of time. The phrase "his bending sickle's compass come" personifies death, and the "sickle" is the symbol of the Grim Reaper, as he is harvesting the living to bring them to the land of the dead. *well summed up*

William Shakespeare treats the subject of death in the same way in "Sonnet 18". In this sonnet, the persona compares a woman to a summer's day, saying that she is more beautiful. At the end, Shakespeare states that by writing this poem, she is immortalised, and thus cheats death. The phrase "Nor shall death brag thou wandr'st in his shade" personifies death, and creates the image that death can be ashamed that someone can evade him with the power of words. The use of iambic pentameter in the sonnet is also very strong, which again supports the idea that it reflects on the voice's confident tone. *MEANS A LITTLE VALUE FREE.*

The next poem explored is *War Photographer* by Carol Ann Duffy. Duffy writes about a war photographer in his darkroom producing pictures and how England will not care. The phrase "spools of suffering" ^{F&P} juxtaposes "ordered rows". The phrase "ordered rows" also creates the image of dead bodies laid out. This creates the effect that the photographer is trying to organise chaos, which is a practically impossible *Does the poet juxtapose chaos?* *DEVELOP POINT*

feat. Duffy writes "Home again/...to fields which don't explode beneath the feet/of running children in a nightmare heat." This suggests that the photographer has gotten so used to atrocities such as this that he finds peace and normal life almost unusual. It can also imply that the children are, instead of running for their lives, are racing and playing. This creates the image that these children are innocent and yet they have to die a horrible death. Duffy uses the metaphor "All flesh is grass." This Biblical quotation implies that flesh is so common that it is almost worthless, like grass. This links with the idea of religion and death being close together in the poem *SENSITIVE GRAPHER OF MEANING* *CONCISE HANDLING OF METAPHOR*



and creating a huge juxtaposition. Another example is the "ordered rows" could represent the pews of a church. Duffy also writes "He has a job to do." The tone of the speaking voice in this phrase is very professional and unemotional, which could suggest that the photographer only sees this as another job. All of this creates the effect that the photographer only feels apathy towards the people who he takes pictures of.

Good effort with alternative meanings

Exp.

Not convincing

Carol Ann Duffy writes, however, "hands which did not tremble then/ though seem to now." This suggests that the photographer does care, and that maybe he is dreading seeing these photos again and reliving the memories. Duffy writes "The reader's eyeballs prick/ with tears between the bath and pre-lunch beers." The tone is mocking, and almost angry, which could imply that the photographer is angry at the general public of England about their apathy, as their eyeballs only "prick with tears", which suggests that whatever pain was felt is gone in a second, when they live very fortunately, and should do something to help. Also, the structure of the poem is relatively firm, however, inside, it is interrupted by a lot of caesura and enjambment.

Appreciated of style / tone

A little vague

P.

This could reflect on the photographer himself, as on the outside, he is rigid and unemotional ("he stares impassively") trying to hide the emotion inside ("hands which did not tremble then"). Duffy writes "preparing to intone a Mass." This could

Level 100A

SP.

suggest that the photographer is trying to teach people about the horrors of conflict, as masses usually have a moral in their theme. The phrase "Solutions slop in trays" create the affect that the pictures in the trays might be the solution to the problem of war.

Interlocking and repetitive consideration of themes

Robert Browning treats death in a different way in *Porphyria's Lover*. The poem describes a psychopath's thoughts in the build-up towards a sexual murder, where he wraps Porphyria's golden hair three times around her neck and strangles her. Unlike

Exp.

War Photographer, the persona sees her death as a good thing, as it captures her in the moment when she loves him most. It could also be seen as a power struggle, with Porphyria winning when she was alive, but by killing her, the persona could be perceived as the more powerful one. Browning writes "surprise/Made my heart swell", and "That moment she was mine, mine". Both of these phrases emphasise the fact that the persona is surprised that Porphyria loves him and not someone else.

COME AWAY!
AND INTERPRETATION
SKILLS.

WHAT ELSE MIGHT THE SECOND
PHRASE SUGGEST ABOUT DEATH
HERE?

EXPAND

The next poem is *A Mother in a Refugee Camp* by Chinua Achebe. Achebe writes about the appalling conditions of a refugee camp and how a mother is preparing her son, either for the grave or for death. Achebe writes "Other mothers there/ Had long ceased to care, but not this one." The use of caesura isolates this mother, as if she is different, but it could be in a good way or a bad way. Achebe also writes "Like putting flowers on a tiny grave." This suggests that something as simple as combing a child's hair can be filled with sorrow and the lack of euphemism in "tiny grave" makes the reader pay attention more and reveals the reality of the situation.

where?

IDEAS WOULD DEVELOP INTO A
LITTLE FURTHER HERE FOR
CAREFUL.

Achebe uses a lot of ambiguity as to whether the mother's son is dead or not. Achebe writes "a son/ She soon would have to forget". This could be interpreted that the child is dead and the mother is in her period of mourning and she would soon have to

will

forget about him. However, it could also be interpreted as the child is dying and she would soon have to forget about him as he would have died. Achebe writes "in her eyes the memory/ Of a mother's pride". This could be interpreted as the child has died and she is remembering when he was alive and she was a mother. However, it could also be interpreted as the child is so ill and is in such a bad state, that the mother is remembering when he was healthy, and maybe she is not proud to be a mother anymore because her child is dying.

EXP.

THOUGHTFUL ALTERNATIVE INTERPRETATIONS

The final poem is *Ballad*, by Anonymous. It is similar to *A Mother in a Refugee Camp* because it is about the relationship between a mother and child and the idea of death for the child and/or mother. In this poem, the mother fell in love with a shepherd who promised her everything, but when she discovered that she was pregnant, he left her on her own. She now wishes to kill herself: "O when will green grass cover me?" She also knows that her child will be rejected by society later on in life. The poet writes "our bodies clay". The persona is talking to her child, which suggests that she is starting to see death as an escape for herself and her child.

E + clear

Thoughtful focus on assignment title and interpretation of it.

How?

Original answer given by person in power?

Death is perceived in many different ways, and something that most people would love to have power over. William Shakespeare shows how words and love can conquer it in *Sonnet 116* and *Sonnet 18*. However, in *War Photographer*, Carol Ann Duffy shows how words or even images can be enough to stop death. But in *Porphyria's Lover*, Robert Browning shows how it can cause even the weakest men to feel power. But in *A Mother in a Refugee Camp*, Chinua Achebe shows how it can cause a mother to treat everyday tasks as a final goodbye and how you loved ones dying is not always a good thing. And in *Ballad*, a mother can turn to death as a solution for herself and her child. Personally I believe that death is something that takes away precious lives, and is horrible and heart breaking no matter who it is. But, with death, comes new life as well, and I think that we should remember the dead with love, but welcome in the new.

Exp.



THE ASSIGNMENT SHOWS A DEMONSTRATED KNOWLEDGE OF THE POEMS CHOSEN AND A SENSITIVE APPRECIATION OF MEANING. PERSONAL INSIGHT IS EVIDENT THROUGHOUT AND, ON THE WHOLE, TECHNICAL VOCABULARY IS USED WITH EASE. THIS IS SMART FOCUS ON THE TITLE AND SHOWS A CLOSE ENGAGEMENT.

26/30

Script 7.

The requirement for 6 poems has been met. This response is focused. The candidate displays personal insight into the use of language and style. Technical language is referred to with ease and confidence. The points are presented in a clear and focused way. There is some very careful analysis although some of the comments appear to be a bit vague and not always supported by textual references. Although there is sufficient in this response to keep it in this range of marks, the occasional lack of incisiveness keeps it in the lower range.

Centre mark: 26 Moderated /standardised mark 24

SCRIPT 8:

Several of the poems in the anthology deal with ideas of mortality and immortality. Explore this, referring to three anthology poems in detail and to at least three others from your wider reading.

The themes of mortality and immortality appear in a variety of poems throughout the anthology. In *My Last Duchess* (Ferrara) by Robert Browning both of these ideas are presented. Although the female character in the poem is mortal, the idea of her continues to live on past her death. *Sonnet 116* by William Shakespeare explores the concept of the immortality of true love. The idea of death is central to *Poem at Thirty-Nine* by Alice Walker. The poet is remembering her father who died, however, the idea that her father and his actions live on through his daughter is explored.

In *My Last Duchess* (Ferrara) by Robert Browning, it is inferred that the Duke had his wife killed. The poem has a very rigid structure, however, it is continually disrupted by the use of punctuation and enjambment. This could be said to mirror the Duke's ordered, controlled life, which is disrupted by the unpredictability of his wife. In the poem the Duke repeatedly mentions a 'spot of joy' that appears on the Duchess' cheek in the portrait of her. The Duke seems displeased, as he does not know what caused this spot of joy and it could be thought that he wished it were 'Her husband's presence' which caused it. This could be said to make her slightly unpredictable as the Duke does not know what may have caused this sign of happiness in his wife. He feels that so many things please her 'twas all one! My favour at her breast, / The dropping of the daylight in the West' and this could be taken to suggest that the Duke does not know what she likes best or whether in fact anything pleases her more than anything else.

Exp.

SHARP FOCUS ON TITLE

Be a little more specific

He wants to be able to control his wife. He is jealous of his character. He is a bit of a control freak.

The reader is given the impression that the Duke may have organised the death of his wife through the words 'I gave commands; / Then all smiles stopped together.' Although the meaning is not completely clear and the reader is never explicitly told that the Duke had his wife murdered, the reader knows that the Duchess is dead and perhaps the most convincing reading is that her death was ordered by her husband as when he talks of giving commands it strongly suggests that he had a part to play. The Duchess's sudden death is a reminder of how quickly a life can end. The Duke speaks of her death very briefly as if it was not a particularly important event and this gives the impression that having her killed was not a particularly difficult task. The reader could perhaps also take the view that the Duke felt justified in having his wife killed as he speaks of the problems he found in her as if anyone would feel equally aggrieved in his situation. *Quotation to justify this view?*

Could be seen as inferring here.

SENSITIVE RESPONSE TO TONE.

The reader is given the impression that the Duke viewed the 'last Duchess' as a possession and possibly that he prefers her now that she is no longer alive and can be admired and controlled only in the way the Duke sees fit. He does this by only letting a select few view the painting. It could be said that the Duke is jealous that his wife smiles at people other than her husband as indicated by the phrase 'but who passed without / Much the same smile?' Maybe it is because of this that the Duke talks about her being 'painted on the wall, / Looking as if she were alive.' Not only could this be taken as being an improvement, in the eyes of

EVIDENCE?

5

well written P

the Duke, as his wife can no longer smile at anyone but it could also be said to immortalise her, however, it is the way in which the Duke wants her to be seen not the way she was. The reader is given the impression that she is now serving the purpose the Duke wanted from her and in this way she lives on and is immortalised through this image of her.

LAST DAY - END OF QUESTIONS FINISH.

VERY GOOD.

Porphyria's Lover, also by Robert Browning, shares many similarities with *My Last Duchess* (Ferrara). In both these poems a woman is immortalised through her death. It is strongly suggested in *Porphyria's Lover* that the reason for the woman's death is so that her lover can have complete control over her. That moment she was mine, and in *My Last Duchess* (Ferrara) one of the results of the Duchess's death is that the Duke gets to control the image of her although he was unable to control her in her lifetime. However where in *My Last Duchess* the duchess is immortalised by a painting of her that was painted during her lifetime, in *Porphyria's Lover* the persona is said to feel 'Happy and proud' and it could be thought that it is these feelings felt by him in that specific moment that live on through the death of Porphyria. However, as opposed to in *My Last Duchess* (Ferrara) where the reader could assume that the immortalisation of the Duchess was, in the eyes of the Duke, more perfect than the Duchess actually was when alive, Porphyria's lover viewed her as so perfect in the moment when he realised that 'Porphyria worshipped' him that by killing her the reader may think that he felt that he was immortalising her perfection. Porphyria is described in the moments leading up to her death as 'mine, mine, fair, / Perfectly pure and good' and her lover, by killing her, thinks that he has kept her like this forever as demonstrated by the phrase 'again / Laughed the blue eyes without a stain'.

P.

P

THINK AND SENSITIVE UNDERSTANDING

BEAUTIFUL PHRASES.

In *Sonnet 116* by William Shakespeare the idea of immortality is explored through the notion of true love. Shakespeare describes this type of love as 'an ever-fixed mark'. This suggests that not only does it continue forever but also that it remains unchanged. The idea of time is personified in this poem in the words 'Love's not Time's fool' this demonstrates the importance and significance of time as well as suggesting that the persona believes that true love should be beyond the clutches of time thus making it immortal. The speaking voice goes on to say 'Within his bending sickle's compass come' which could be taken to mean that some things, such as 'rosy lips and cheeks', may be lost over time although the love itself stays the same.

P

IDENTICAL EXPLANATION OF SHAKESPEARE'S INFLUENCE ON TONE AND MEANING.

In the poem there is a strong sense of rhythm and rhyme which creates a feeling of balance and continuity throughout the poem. This influences the tone of the sonnet as well, creating an assured tone as Shakespeare is very confident in the validity of what he is saying. The poet uses iambic pentameter on every line and this does not change throughout the poem creating a very steady rhythm. The structure is also very rigid and mirrors the meaning in the way it appears unbreakable as if it will never change. This is echoed in the way the speaking voice describes the immortality of true love. In the poem it says, 'Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks' which coupled with the rhythmical nature of the poem and the fixed structure creates a very strong impression of something continuing forever. It is this consistency which suggests the unchanging nature of the love being described.

Structure neatly handled

:

In *Under the Waterfall* by Thomas Hardy a day, and the memories that that day holds, are immortalised. A drinking glass has been lost under the waterfall, this glass seems to be of significance and the reader is told that there is 'nothing to show how prized' it is. This suggests that it is of great personal value and could be said to symbolise the memory of the day or even the love between the two characters. The strong mood of constancy and endlessness created through the poem could be due to its setting. The waterfall is said to have 'spoken' since hills were turfless peaks' and later on in the poem the word 'persistently' is used. This gives a feeling of things carrying on as they are forever which may be why we could get the impression that the persona believes that by losing the drinking glass in this place a memory will be kept unchanged through time. In this way the day is in some way immortalised.

Thoughtful, word specific, analysis

P

Poem at Thirty-Nine by Alice Walker explores the idea of mortality through the persona's dead father. The speaking voice says more than once in the poem 'How I miss my father' this repetition indicates how much the persona thinks of her father in her everyday life but could possibly be taken to show that she has accepted the death of her father. The speaking voice is not overly idealistic and seems to realise that her father's death was inevitable, however, her father seems to be very much present throughout her life. The persona also suggests that her father lives on through his daughter's actions 'Now I look and cook just

rather with people of meaning

P

like him' and admits to hoping her father would 'admire' the woman she had become.

Walker was writing as a black woman in America during the civil rights movement and would have understood about having to work hard through life. In the poem the speaking voice says that lots of the vital things she must do in her life have been taught to her by her father: "He taught me how." The poem is written in free verse and this creates a sense of ease and unconstrained happiness which is reinforced by the fact that we are told her father used to cook 'like a person / dancing'. The persona also says that she learned to see some of

the skills her father taught her 'as a way / to escape / the life he knew'. This could be said to show that the persona owes much to her father on a practical level and this could add to the reasons why her father remains such a big part of her life and why she seems to connect him with her daily activities.

A FINE EXPLOREMENT OF THE POEM THROUGH THE ASSIGNMENT TITLE.

In *Ballad* the persona could be said to be wishing her own death. The metaphor 'my body clay' could be said to suggest that she wishes she could no longer feel anything. The line 'O when will green grass cover me?' is quite desperate and gives the impression that the persona hopes for the day when she will no longer live. It could be said, however, that her actions will live on through the birth of her child who she believes will live a troubled and difficult life as demonstrated in the words 'I've made thy pillow on a thorn'. The last two lines of the poem 'I wish our sorrows both away, / Our souls with God, our bodies clay' could be said to indicate that perhaps the persona sees death as an easier option for both her and her child. The idea of the persona viewing death as an escape could be seen to highlight how mortal she and her child are.

The poems by Robert Browning explore the ideas of both immortality and mortality. In these poems the idea of a dead woman somehow living on past her death is explored but in different ways. In *Sonnet 116* and *Under the Waterfall* the reader is presented with the idea of things carrying on forever. The concept of endlessness is very difficult to imagine and I think that it is the idea of something being separated from and beyond time that makes immortality so difficult for humans to contemplate. In both these poems the idea of things carrying on forever is explored in different ways but in both, the reader can see that objects or feelings that are immortalised take on mysterious qualities. The idea of death is explored in *Poem at Thirty-Nine* and *Ballad*. However in both these poems the idea that the characters' actions may affect others even after their death is very powerful. Personally I believe that the ideas of immortality and mortality will always be discussed and explored especially through literature. Death and immortality are both ideas which cannot be fully appreciated by humans and I think it is for this reason that they are fascinating to so many people.

Sophisticated sense of overview

THE ASSIGNMENT IS SHARPLY AND CONSISTENTLY FOCUSED ON THE TITLE AND IS EXCELLENTLY STRUCTURED. ANALYTICAL AND INTERPRETATIVE SKILLS ARE USED CONVINCINGLY TO CREATE A WELL-ARGUED PERSONAL RESPONSE.

Moderated



Very strong response for the most part. In places views are not fully supported by quotation and the point of poems are not always clearly linked in the narrative. Some things effectively discussed.

37/50

Script 8.

The requirement for 6 poems has been met. This is, on the whole strong and confident response. Analytical skills are demonstrated with confidence; techniques are discussed effectively and the candidate refers to technical language with ease. The response is focused and there is a lot of insightful comments, although these not always supported by textual references. Links between the poems are not always made clear. Overall, the response just lacks the sophistication and maturity to make it into the top end of the 27-30 band.

Centre mark: 27 Moderated/standardised mark 27

SCRIPT 9:

Explore how different poets present the relationships between parents and children, referring to three poems in detail and at least three other poems from your wider reading.

Love comes in many different forms and one of these forms is parental love. The poems 'Mother in a Refugee Camp' by Chinua Achebe, 'If' by Rudyard Kipling and 'Poem at Thirty-Nine' by Alice Walker are all relevant to parent and child relationships. In 'Mother in a Refugee Camp' the persona explores the relationship between a mother and her dying child, and compares them to the Madonna and her child. 'If' takes a different, more didactic tone which puts more emphasis on balance and morals. In 'Poem at Thirty-Nine' the persona recalls her childhood and how much her father taught her. In 'Vultures', 'Night of the Scorpion' and 'Ballad' by Chinua Achebe, Nissim Ezekiel and an anonymous poet respectively, the theme of parental love and how it shows itself in different ways is considered as well.

So distinct about of persona

EFFECTIVE OPENING

'Mother in a Refugee Camp' revolves primarily around themes of parenting; preparation for death and the difficulties people must face in refugee camps. The harshness of the situation is found in phrases such as, 'heavy with diarrhoea'; there is no use of euphemism here because there is no way of making the stench in the air bearable for those in the camp and the poet helps the reader understand this with a lack of euphemism. This simple language could suggest that the refugees do not have enough strength to lie, even to make their children feel better. Despite this the mother still endeavours to make life seem normal for her child and combs their hair. This line, 'and combed/ The rust-coloured', also ties in with the idea of preparing for death as combing hair could be associated with presenting oneself for a special occasion and rust has strong connotations with decomposition, overall making the line seem more significant because of the contrasting phrases which appear to represent a mother preparing her dying child for death.

INTERESTING INTERPRETATION

Exp.

Strong lines

In the first line of the poem, 'No Madonna and Child could touch/ Her tenderness for a son', Achebe compares the relationship between the mother and her son to the religious epitome of the Madonna and her child, which emphasises the pure, unconditional love the woman has for her child, and how this ultimate relationship rivals the tenderness of Mary. Even the persona's bleak and seemingly unemotional tone changes slightly in the second line where it softens and human emotion is shown, showing that this love can be fathomed by all. In addition to this the blending of sense perception helps to convey the mother's turmoil as the child appears to die, or be on the verge of death. An example of sensory description in this poem includes 'humming in her eyes'. The word 'humming' has connotations with crooning which can be associated with singing a child to sleep. The use of sound and sight in this metaphor creates the idea that the mother can communicate just as much through her eyes and emotions, as through speech. The relationship is shown to be a strong one in this poem, with religious imagery highlighting the unconditional love this mother has for her child.

powerful phrase in camp image

INTERESTING ANALYSIS

Technical vocabulary used with confidence

Candidate Number [REDACTED]

Centre Number [REDACTED]

In 'Night of the Scorpion' the persona describes what happened when his mother was stung by a scorpion. Much like 'Mother in a Refugee Camp' it incorporates themes of unconditional, maternal love; but in this poem the love and relationship between the mother and child is only shown in the final line where the persona recalls his mother saying 'Thank God the scorpion picked on me/ and spared my children.' Despite being afflicted by great pain, the maternal love for her children is reflected in the tone of her voice and means that she could be gratified that it was her and not those she loved who suffered. This is made even more poignant by the ambiguity of the poem's ending. 'After twenty hours it lost its sting.' This phrase could be interpreted as the mother recovering the sting and surviving. Likewise, it could be read as the sting being lost as the mother died. It is more germane and relevant if the latter is true because it would insinuate that someone would sooner face death than see their children in equal amounts of pain.

Confident handling of the area of topic

MAKES A GOOD UNDERSTANDING

'Poem at Thirty-Nine' by Alice Walker is a poem which speaks of the persona's advice from her father when she was young. In this poem some lines could have different interpretations. For example, 'I learned to see/ bits of paper/ as a way/ to escape'. 'bits of paper' could be read as money (banknotes), writing (using paper to write poems and novels on), or an education (books providing one with knowledge); which would lead to different elucidations of these lines. None of these meanings have to be finite, but whichever way you read this it can be seen as a useful lesson; money, writing and education all give people power, though all in different forms.

definition?

EXCELLENT ELUCIDATION OF MEANING

Advice from the persona's father is also explicitly shown in the penultimate stanza; 'Now I look and cook just like him' implies that she is like her father in looks and cooking, which is strengthened by the repetition of sound which creates an internal-rhyme. 'seasoning none

strengthened by the repetition of sound which creates an internal-rhyme. 'seasoning none of my life/ the same way twice' suggests that she is carefree and open to embrace new things in life. This idea is reflected in the poem which has no formal structure and consequently is not confined to conventional poetic limitations. Moreover the caesura and enjambment in this poem create the impression that the poet is overcome with emotion and memories of her father's advice. This makes the persona's thoughts appear to drift uncontrollably and purposelessly across the page and mirrors the persona's thoughts on 'dancing' as a result of the flow of the poem. This enforces the father's idea that being different and independent is a positive thing in life. This poem shows that children value their parent's advice and how they are shown in domestic life is how their children will view them.

Subjective consideration of structure and its effect on personal meaning.

INTERESTING IDEA.

In 'Vultures', Achebe chooses to portray parents in a different light, comparing how they act at work in contrast to how they are at home. Part of this poem depicts a Commandant at a concentration camp, but regardless of the initial feelings you have towards this man, it goes on to explain that he will, 'pick up a chocolate/ for his tender offspring'. This demonstrates that although he will kill innocent people regularly, he will still be the caring parent he is at home because he loves his children and is not willing to let his job affect his

relationships with them. It could, however, also be seen as a superficial kind of love- the parent is required to buy his love through cheap sweets. It also describes his child or children 'waiting at home for Daddy's/return...'. This supports the idea that children are dependent on their parents, which is part of what makes their relationship so strong. These children's love for their father far surpasses their possible feelings at his job. The love children have for their parents is stronger than words and cannot be broken through actions.

Exp.

IS THE LOVE OF THE 'TENDER OFFSPRING' ORDINARY?

Rudyard Kipling uses a formal quality in his poem 'If' to embody the concept of British idealism. This dramatic monologue is set out in such a way that could be interpreted as an authoritative figure directly addressing an inexperienced figure in a didactic tone, which uses imperatives liberally to enforce the commanding tone and makes the persona seem emotionally detached from the reader, or person they are addressing. The application of colloquial language makes it more relevant to the younger generations whilst balancing out the effect of imperatives; an example of this is 'risk it in one turn of pitch-and toss'. The imperative used is demanding but the impersonal quality is balanced out by the colloquial phrase, 'pitch- and- toss'.

The persona in 'If' describes how to be a perfect person; this unrealistic approach is possibly not the best way to give advice as it makes the goal seem unachievable. The anaphora of the word 'if' at the beginning of each stanza makes the tone of the persona sound disbelieving that the person they are addressing can achieve what they have proposed, but also creates the idea that if you can follow these rules you will 'be a man'. This gives the reader hope that they have a chance at becoming this ideal character. The metaphor, 'don't deal in lies' gives the impression that the persona sees life as a game and you need certain tactics to survive. The relationship here is shown to be a parental figure commanding someone but using this parental authority to advise them. It shows parent and child relationships in a different light, being more impersonal and more inclined to give advice than caring words.

ARE THERE
OTHER POSSIBLE
RESPONSES?

Thoughtful analysis of tone.

Exp. 'Ballad' covers the opposite to 'if', commenting on how their child will have a hard and difficult life and that there is nothing anyone can do to change this fate. In this poem the persona believes that death is the answer to her problems as she and her child will have to live as social outcasts. The uniformed structure of quatrains mirrors this as the rhyming couplets make the poem appear formal and impersonal when laid out on the page. This predictability makes the phrasing seem prepared and unnatural when the persona addresses the child and makes the persona seem detached from the rest of the world as a result of the rigid, impersonal structure. The language also has the effect of making the persona seem unloving of her own child in the final quatrain where the persona addresses her child directly saying, 'I wish our sorrows both away, / Our souls with God, our bodies clay.' This suggests that she wishes them to go to heaven and their bodies to turn back into earth. The use of the word 'wish' implies that she does not believe that they will go to

USUAL CONTENT
OF A BALLAD?

heaven; it is only a dream that they would be able to, as a result of her sins and her child's illegitimacy.

Relationships between adults and children are truly unique. They can be impersonal, unconditionally loving or fragile. 'Mother in a Refugee Camp', 'Night of the Scorpion' and 'Vultures' all show how frequently unconditional the love is in the relationship between parents and their children. Alternatively, 'Ballad' shows that sometimes the regret of having a child can ruin this relationship. Finally, 'Poem at Thirty-Nine' and 'If' show that the relationships between adults and children often consist of the advice an adult gives a child and how this can influence how a child can perceive an adult. Overall, I think that it is interesting how different poets present the relationships between adults and children differently. I also believe that their presentation of relationships depend on a number of factors, a prominent one being their own experience of parent and child relationships.

*Learn to be
a good
student*

1,832

THIS ASSIGNMENT EXHIBITS A TIGHTLY DETAINED KNOWLEDGE OF THE POETS AND ONLY THOROUGHLY RELEVANT MATERIAL IS USED IN RESPONSE TO THE TITLE, WHICH IS TIGHTLY FOCUSED THROUGHOUT. THE CANDIDATE SHOWS EVIDENCE OF SOPHISTICATED INTERPRETATIVE SKILLS AND USES TECHNICAL VOCABULARY WITH CONFIDENCE. APPRECIATION OF MEANING IS INFERRED AND PERCEPTIVE.

*Confident, insightful
handling of some
complex ideas*



28

Script 9.

The requirement for 6 poems is met. This is a confident, insightful and focused response. The candidate has displayed a highly detailed knowledge of all six poems. Only relevant material is used in this response. There is evidence of sophisticated interpretative skills and the candidate uses technical language with ease and confidence. A few vague comments but this does not detract. The response is focused, 'tidy' and sustained with personal insights.

Centre mark: 28 Moderated/ standardised mark 30

SCRIPT 10:

Explore how different poets present the relationships between adults and children, referring to three different poems in detail and at least three other poems from your wider reading.

The depiction of relationships between adults and children can vary greatly in different poems. The poems 'Mother in a Refugee Camp' 'Do not go Gentle into That Good Night' and 'Half-past Two' are all examples of relationships between the young and old. Chinua Achebe's poem, 'Mother in a Refugee Camp' describes a mother's love for her dying son. 'If' by Rudyard Kipling also shows a father's love for his son as he directs his child how to become a true man. The poem 'Do not go gentle into that good night' by Dylan Thomas shows the loving relationship between a father and his child, but is from the son's perspective as he is pleading his father to fight against dying. A similar relationship occurs in the poem 'Night of the Scorpion' by Nissim Ezekiel as the voice of the poem expresses horror when his mother is bitten by a scorpion. 'Half Past Two' and 'Ballad' illustrate that children are able to escape from the adult world due to their ignorance which affects their relationships with adults.

Excellent, focused introduction.

The structure of 'A Mother in a Refugee Camp' by Chinua Achebe portrays the relationship between the mother and her son, especially her overwhelming love for him, despite his inevitable fate. The poem is written in free verse with varying line length, making the poem slightly disorderly, like a great outpouring of emotions. This emphasises how shocking the setting is, therefore showing the

Perceptive discussion of structure & effects.

great extent to which the parent must go in order to continue looking after her child. This effect shows how greatly the mother loves her child. The structure of the poem also emphasises this as it begins with the voice's immediate impression of the relationship between the mother and son when it is compared to the "Madonna and Child" and then moves on to comment on other areas of the camp like "unwashed children" and "other mothers"; however the subject soon returns to the parent and child starting with the phrase, "but not this one". This gives the impression that the mother's love is so great, it is able to stand out among others'. Enjambment is used throughout the poem, making it flow, seeming 'never-ending' thus implying that, although the death of her son is inevitable, she will

Thoughtful consideration of structure

Word count: 2,248

continue to love him even after he has passed away. This shows the helpless love in this type of relationship.

Many language and sound techniques are also used by Achebe to show the mother's relationship with her son as it shows her lack of power over his fate. One method Achebe uses to achieve this is through emphasising the inescapability of the camp to represent the son's preordained future as death is inevitable for a young child in this situation, mainly through the use of sensory description. The alliteration of 'Behind blown-empty bellies' ^{emphasises} ~~creates~~ the image of starving children which gives the reader the impression that the conditions of the camp are so horrific that the inhabitants are on the verge of death and acts as foreshadowing of the child's death. Sensory description is also used to show how the suffering and death are inescapable as the 'odours of diarrhoea' and the pain felt when 'waddling in laboured steps' are overwhelming. Also, these ideas of pain contrasting with the fact that the mother is able to hold 'a ghost smile between her teeth' shows her motherly love for her child in this relationship. This emphasises the great love involved in this relationship, despite the certain death that the future holds. ✓ *Thoughtful + perceptive discussion of language.*

Achebe also uses imagery to convey the helpless love the mother holds for her child directly, and by emphasising the horrors of the camp. The religious image of the 'Madonna and child' being compared with the mother's 'tenderness for a son' depicts her as the perfect mother, therefore contributing to the idea of love in this relationship. ✓ The ambiguity of whether the son is dead or not clearly emphasises

the fact that the mother is helpless as, even if he were still alive, dying in the refugee camp is his inevitable fate. The metaphor 'a ghost smile' and repeated references to the skeleton, such as 'teeth', 'ribs' and 'skull' are all foreshadowing and show death's approach for the child. The metaphor 'heavy with odours', used to describe the air shows how the environment is suffocating and that death is inescapable and therefore the mother's love is helpless. These references to death and suffering emphasize how admirably the mother insists on caring for her child, yet how helpless she is as the child is going to die, despite her care. ✓ The word 'bundle' is used to describe the small amount of

Effective discussion of language + affect.

possessions that they have left; however even a 'broken comb' is included in this, which emphasises the fact that the mother really cares even in the most difficult situations as the relationship has not changed since better times in the past when this act 'of no consequence' was carried out every day 'Before his breakfast and school.' ✓ *Engaged = insightful response.*

The voice of the father in the poem 'If' by Rudyard Kipling is another concerned and guiding parent, attempting to care for the child and guide him due to his love. The structure of the poem is used by Kipling to show this. The last stanza reveals that only once the son has achieved everything listed throughout the poem can he become a true man; however enjambment and the length of the poem, with four stanzas, each eight lines long, emphasises that the father expects a great things from his son *Good.* as becoming a man is a long and continuous process. The language used in the last stanza emphasises how much the father expects from his son as he directs him to 'walk with Kings' without losing the 'common touch'. Overall this shows that the persona wants the son to be the best he can be, even in the hardest situations, meaning that he loves his son, despite not being in complete control of his future. *Sophisticated discussion*

'Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night' by Dylan Thomas also focuses on the helpless love within a relationship between a parent and child, but is shown from the child's perspective. The persona's love for their parent is shown in the desperation to keep him alive, which is shown through the structure of the poem. The poet has used the form of a Villanelle which contributes to the theme of life as the regular rhythm of iambic pentameter which is used sounds like a heart beating, showing the narrator desperately wants his father to continue living due to his great love for him.

Language is the main technique used by the poet to show the son's desperation. Begging language is used and the persona is addressing the father directly which emphasises this idea of pleading the parent to hold on to life. The unusual language used in the title, 'Gentle' rather than 'Gently' draws attention to the word as the son does not want his father to die without him trying to avoid it. This, coupled with the direct imperatives such as 'Rage' and 'Burning', shows how helpless he is as he is

begging hopelessly and desperately, making the relationship similar to the one in 'A mother in a refugee camp' as the death of the loved one is inexorable. Religious language such as 'I pray' also give the impression that the son is desperately pleading and loves his father dearly but to no avail.

Imagery is used by the poet to create the impression that the son has always looked up to his father. The poet has used many references of light as metaphors for life such as 'day', 'sun' 'burn' and 'blaze' to show that the narrator is desperately trying to persuade the father to live, but also that his life will be 'darker' and more solemn after the death of his parent. 'Day' and 'Night' are used as a metaphor for life and death. 'Night' is also often used as a metaphor for confusion or a lack of vision or knowledge, meaning that the son will be without happiness or knowledge when his father is dead. The metaphor 'sad height' may also show that the son respects his father showing that the father still has the authority in this relationship.

Very interesting, personal response.

Another poem which shows a child's protectiveness over a parent through desperation and helplessness is 'Night of the Scorpion' by Nissim Ezekiel. This is especially shown through his dislike for the neighbours and how he is horrified by their actions. The narrator describes them as pests using the simile 'the peasants came like swarms of flies and buzzed' suggesting that he was uncomfortable about their response to the scorpion sting. The alliterative consonants of 'flame feeding' highlight the phrase and suggest that the peasants' rituals are seen as damaging to the mother by the child narrator. The metaphor 'giant scorpion shadows' is used to describe the shadows the

It is his father who tries to burn the peasant.

neighbours' lanterns cast, suggesting that the child views them as part of the problem and therefore blames them for his mother's pain. The detached tone of the poem and the repetition of 'they said' shows his inability to help and that he, despite being a child, believes his is the more 'rational' perspective than an adult's as he is doubtful of their ideas.

'Half-past Two' by U.A. Fanthorpe presents a completely different relationship between adults and children. The child is under the control of the teacher, but the young boy is able to 'escape' into a world which is not controlled by time due to his ignorance when adults cannot. The structure is used

by the poet to convey how time controls the teacher, but not the child. Caesura is used to break up the lines and make the rhythm like the ticking of a clock, particularly in the areas of the poem which are from the point of view of the adult teacher or discussing the times that the child is aware of such as 'gettinguptime' and 'timeyouwereofftime', but not when the boy 'escapes' from the reach of time. Furthermore, enjambment is used after the line 'he'd escaped forever' to emphasise this slowing of time for the child. Overall this structure emphasises the difference between the child and the teacher which affects their relationship as they do not understand each other fully.

Thoughtful response.

The use of language and voices in this poem are very effective as they are used to show the faults in the relationship between the child and teacher. It creates the idea that, although the teacher has authority over the child, the child has a power to escape time which the teacher does not possess.

Although the poem is written in a detached narrative voice, the poet uses indirect free discourse to portray the voice of a busy, disorganised teacher contrasting with a young child who uses compound words such 'gettinguptime' and the repetition of 'Something Very Wrong'. This shows the misunderstanding of the child which therefore affects the relationship as he is not aware of what he has done wrong; however he is still punished by the teacher. Pronouns like 'Her' or 'She' with capitals show that the boy feels guilty and is repeating what the teacher has told him because she has almost a god-like authority over him. *✓ General discussion.*

The imagery used by Fanthorpe shows how the young boy is bewildered by time and the adult world in general which leaves a fault in his relationship with the teacher as he does not understand her. His lack of understanding about time is shown in the phrases 'two long legs for walking' and 'couldn't click its language' as he is unsure how to read a clock. The word 'Time' is written with a capital letter to emphasise the boy's bewilderment and misunderstanding. This confusion causes a problem in their relationship as the adult and child do not understand each other, and so struggle to make a connection.

The idea of being a relationship damaged by a child's ignorance is also shown in 'Ballad' written by an anonymous poet. The poet uses irony and contrast to show that even though the baby is happy,

those around it and its future will not be which demonstrates its deep misunderstanding. The baby smiles 'at words that be/The messengers of grief' as it is unaware that the mother has 'made its pillow on a thorn' and caused it to live a life of grief. This misapprehension of the child causes a threat to the relationship with her mother as the mother is unable to find solace in the child and therefore struggles to communicate and form a relationship. *✓ Mother = perception discussion.*

Overall, the relationships between adults and children in poems differ depending on the context of the poem and the nature of the characters. Some poems include relationships involving love between parents and children, such as 'Mother in A Refugee Camp' 'If' 'Do Not Go Gentle' and 'Night of the Scorpion'. Others portray relationships between adults and children as confusing or weak due to their differences like in 'Ballad' and 'Half-past Two'. Personally, I believe that the relationship in 'A Mother in a Refugee Camp' is the most powerful due to the horrific context and how helpless the love is. I also think that the relationship between the teacher and child in 'Half-past Two' is the most thought-provoking as it draws attention to faults in relationships between adults and children which occur commonly, but are rarely noticed. *✓*

*Thorough, focused & sophisticated response to texts & topics.
 Mature appreciation of language & style. A particular strength is the discussion of writers' use of structure and the different affects created. Technical language is used*

30
30
Moderated.
Very effectively to express a well-argued, personal response to the poetry + an appreciation of poetic method.

Script 10.

A confident and fluent response. It shows a highly detailed knowledge of the texts and personal insight is evident. The response is focused (although not as much as script 9). Covers all the criteria for this band.

Centre mark: 30 Moderated mark 30