

KS4 Conflict Poetry Knowledge Organiser

Summaries:

The Emigree - 'Emigree' – a female who is forced to leave their county for political or social reasons. The speaker describes her memories of a home city that she was forced to flee.

Despite the cities problems, her positive memories of the place cannot be extinguished.

Checking Out My History -Represents the voice of a man from the Caribbean colony of British Guiana, who was frustrated by the Eurocentric history curriculum that he was taught at school – which paid little attention to black history.

Ozymandias -The narrator meets a traveller who tells him about a decayed stature in a desert. The statue was of an ancient King: the arrogant Ozymandias. The poem is one big metaphor: Human power is only temporary –even the most powerful human designs cannot survive nature.

My Last Duchess - The Duke is showing a visitor around his large art collection and proudly points out a portrait of his last wife, who is now dead. He reveals that he was annoyed by her over-friendly and flirtatious behaviour. He can finally control her by showing her portrait to visitors when he chooses.

Tissue - Two different meanings of 'Tissue' are explored: firstly, the various pieces of paper that control our lives (holy books, maps, receipts); secondly, the tissue of a human body. The poet explores the paradox that although paper is fragile and temporary, we allow it to control our lives.

The Prelude - The story of a boy's love of nature and a night-time adventure in a rowing boat. At first, he is calm and confident, but the sight of a huge mountain that comes into view scares the boy. He is now in awe of the mountain and now fearful of nature.

Storm on the Island - The narrator describes how a rural island community prepared for a coming storm, and how they were confident in their preparations. When the storm hits, they are shocked by its power: its violent sights and sounds are described, using the

Context:

The Emigree - published in 1993. The home country of the speaker is not revealed – this ambiguity gives the poem a timeless relevance. The poem is increasingly relevant to many people in current world climate.

Checking Out My History --John Agard was born in the Caribbean in 1949 and moved to the UK in the 1970s. His poetry challenges racism and prejudice.

Ozymandias - -Shelley was a poet of the 'Romantic period' (late 1700s and early 1800s). Romantic poets were interested in emotion and the power of nature. Shelley also disliked the concept of a monarchy and the oppression of ordinary people and was inspired by the French revolution.

My Last Duchess - Browning was a British poet, and lived in Italy. The poem was published in 1842. Browning may have been inspired by the story of an Italian Duke (Duke of Ferrara): his wife died in suspicious circumstances and it was rumoured that she had been poisoned.

Tissue - Imtiaz Dharker was born in Pakistan and grew up in Glasgow. 'Tissue' is taken from a 2006 collection of poems entitled 'The Terrorist at My Table': the collection questions how well we know people around us. This particular poem also questions how well we understand ourselves and the fragility of humanity.

The Prelude - Published shortly after his death, The Prelude was a very long poem (14 books) that told the story of William Wordsworth's life. This extract is the first part of a book entitled 'Introduction – Childhood and School-Time'. Like Percy Shelley, Wordsworth was a romantic poet and so his poetry explores themes of nature.

Storm on the Island - Seamus Heaney was Northern Irish, he died in 2013. This poem was published in 1966 at the start of 'The Troubles' in Northern Ireland: a period of deep unrest and violence between those who wanted to remain part of the UK and those who wanted to become part of Ireland.



Key Themes:

Conflict
Reality of war
Effects of war
Nature
Bravery
Fear
Death
Patriotism
Power
Control
Murder
Poverty
History

Key Quotes:

The Emigree

"I left it as a child"

"I am branded by an impression of sunlight" "My city hides behind me"

Checking Out Me History

"Bandage up me eye with me own history"

"Dem tell me wha dem want"

"I carving out me identity"

Ozymandias

"sneer of cold command"

"Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair."

"The lone and level sands stretch far away."

My Last Duchess

"Will't please you sit and look at her?"

"as if she ranked / My gift of a nine-hundred-years-old name / With anybody's gift"

"I gave commands; Then all smiles stopped together"

Tissue

"The sun shines through their borderlines"

"pages smoothed and stroked and turned" "Fine slips [...] might fly our lives like paper kites"

The Prelude

"One summer evening (led by her)"

"an act of stealth / And troubled pleasure"

"There hung a darkness"

Strom on the Island

"We build our houses squat"

"Exploding comfortably"

"spits like a tame cat turned savage"

London

"Marks of weakness, marks of woe"

"mind-forged manacles"

"Every black'ning church appals"



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Methods:

Enjambment – when a line runs on without a full stop

Caesura – full stop in the middle of the line

End-stopped line – full stop at the end of a line

Rhyme – Words with the same sounds, usually at the end of lines

Consonance – repetition of consonant sounds.

Alliteration – Words close together that begin with the same sounding letter.

Assonance – Repetition of a vowel sound.

Sibilance – Repetition of an 's' sound

Plosives – p, d, g, or b sounds

Allusion – a reference to another work
Volta – change in tone

Noun – A word for a person, place or thing.

Pronoun – A word used when referring to someone or something.

Verb – A word used to describe an action, state or occurrence.

Adjective – A word to describe a noun.

Adverb – A word used to describe a verb.

Simile – A phrase comparing one thing to another, using *as* or *like*.

Metaphor – A phrase comparing one thing to another, by saying it is that thing.

Personification – A phrase giving human characteristics to a non-human object.

Imagery – Words or phrases that create visual images.

Emotive language – Words that create feeling and emotion. **Semantic field** – A group of words that follow the same theme.

Rhetorical question – A question that does not require an answer.

Oxymoron – A phrase using contradictory words.

Onomatopoeia – Words that create a sound.

Symbolism – The representation of ideas in images or motifs. **Repetition** – A word or phrase that is used more than once. **Perspective** – A point of view. Text can be written form a first (I), second (you) or third person (he/she/they) perspective. **Juxtaposition** – Two concepts, themes, ideas or characters that are contrasting or opposite.

Sentence Starters:

Both _____ and _____ explore ideas about...

In the first poem the poet presents/portrays...

Quote (embedded)

This suggests to the reader...

In particular, the poet's use of (method) implies/emphasises...

The poet is revealing/highlighting (ideas/context)

In comparison, in the second poem the poet presents/portrays...

Quote (embedded)

This suggests to the reader...which is similar/different to...

In particular, the poet's use of (method) implies/emphasises...

Therefore, unlike/like the first poet, the is revealing/highlighting (ideas/context)

Key Words:

Stanza – section of a poem

Speaker - the narrator, or person in the poem.

Conflict – a disagreement, usually resulting in violence

Power – Force or the ability to influence others

Nature – the physical word including plants, landscape etc.

Critique – a work that explores and criticises something

Patriotism – a love for one's country

Pacifism – opposition to all violence, including war

Elegy – an expression of grief

Futility - pointlessness

Despair – hopelessness
Idealised – Represented as better than it is in reality

Anti-war – against war

Nostalgia – Looking back with fondness