

An introduction



You will begin your year in Year 10, studying poetry in preparation for your second piece of English Literature coursework (12.5% of overall grade).

You will be expected to explore a theme in two poems and analyse these poems in detail.



Did you
know that
poetry is
all around
you?

Poetry can be found in everyday life through various mediums like song lyrics, greeting cards, social media posts, wedding vows, and eulogies.

There are different types of poetry, such as sonnets, haikus, free verse, ballads, and limericks, that offer unique ways of expressing thoughts and emotions.



YOUR TASK!



Pick a song of your choice and annotate the lyrics in as much detail as possible.

You must:

- Have at least 10 quotations selected
 - Need to circle words and explore the connotations
 - Write at the bottom what the song is about overall
- Must try to comment on any techniques such as metaphors, similes, irony etc
- Write what you think the message/hidden meaning behind the song is

Example

POET



Taylor Swift Analysis

God rest my soul, I miss who I used to be

~~The tomb won't close~~, stained glass windows in my mind

I regret you all the time

I can't let this go, I fight with you in my sleep

~~The wound won't close~~, I keep on waiting for a sign

I regret you all the time

Can extend from something should be there
"wounded" "wounds" "warped her perception of me"
the "windows" are her views on the world and the colours of stained glass represent her altered perspective. The pieces represent shattered idealism.
"I should be the only word from the hymn that is not used in the verses: only in the Chorus. We can infer that Taylor does to show her personal sides on either side and the blame she holds on herself does not feel the need to focus on what she should've done / the right thing to do corresponding presumably to her toxic and manipulative relationship with ~~Maureen~~ she was 19 then, did a "Never danced with the devil at nineteen".
tomb has connotations to death and burial can infer that there is something that she would stay buried. Her trauma haunts her.

Creates a feeling of anticipation, as she is no longer in control of her life.

~~Rolling~~ me slow, out the window

I'm always waiting for you to be waiting below

~~Rolls~~ roll the dice, angels roll their eyes

What doesn't ~~kill~~ me makes me want more

And it's new, the shape of your body

It's ~~blue~~, the feeling I've got

And it's ooh, whoa, oh

It's cool, that's what I tell 'em

No rules in ~~breakable~~ heaven

*Repetition, shows how constant her regret is
Same situation both verses: shows how her thoughts are focused on him, and only vary slightly*

It's a cruel summer

or uses juxtaposition to present the idea of fairy wedding tragedy.

Context from the album of lover with themes of love loss and sadness



could reinforce her first time with a woman

*might happen
more likely to happen
expect it to happen*

some imagery emphasizes casts of faith went through lost in this relationship. Reflecting to her recent "crisis of faith" as a 19-year-old

connotations of misery and sadness

"out the window I'm always waiting for you" → love story?



Take a look at these sections from two songs and the question prompts that might help your own analysis.

This is Me - The Greatest Showman



Scan Me

I'm not a stranger to the dark
Hide away, they say
'Cause we don't want your broken parts
I've learned to be ashamed of all my scars
Hide away, they say, no one will love you as
you are
But I won't let them break me down to dust
I know that there's a place for us
For we are glorious
When the sharpest words wanna cut me
down
I'm gonna send a flood, gonna drown 'em out
I am brave, I am bruised
I am who I'm meant to be, this is me

1. What broken parts could the singer be talking about?
2. Why would someone tell someone 'no one will love you as you are'?
3. Why won't she let them break her down to dust?
4. Have you ever received sharp words that have offended you?
5. Why would people put others down because they are different?
6. What does she mean about 'send a flood'?

Take a look at these sections from two songs and the question prompts that might help your own analysis.

Someone Like You - Adele

I heard that you're settled down
That you found a girl and you're
married now
I heard that your dreams came true
Guess she gave you things I didn't give
to you
Old friend, why you so shy?
Ain't like you to hold back or hide from
the night
I hate to turn up out of the blue
uninvited
But I couldn't stay away, I couldn't fight
it
I had hoped you'd see my face
And that you'd be reminded, that for
me, it isn't over

1. What does 'settled down' mean?
2. What dreams is she talking about?
3. Who is 'old friend' and why is it so shy?
4. What does 'turn up out of the blue' mean? Have you ever done this?
5. What could she not fight? Why?
6. Who do you think the singer is talking to?
7. Why might someone find a break-up so difficult?



Scan Me