

# Wallasey School Review Day

## Year 11 *English Work*



### Unseen Poetry

The unseen poetry component of your English Literature exam comprises of a poem you have not studied previously with the question:

**Write about the poem and its effect on you.**

*You may wish to include some or all of these points:*

- *the poem's content – what it is about;*
- *the ideas the poet may have wanted us to think about;*
- *the mood or atmosphere of the poem;*
- *how it is written – words or phrases you find interesting, the way the poem is structured or organised, and so on;*
- *your response to the poem.*

The question is always the same, only the poetry changes.

For the following 3 poems read, annotate and answer the above question.

This should produce three short essays of around 2 sides each.

You may wish to make notes under each bullet point before you begin – it is very important that you answer every bullet point.

### Key Words

Themes	Personification	Rhythm
Ideas	Onomatopoeia	Rhyme
Imagery	Repetition	Structure
Simile	Vocabulary	Enjambment
Metaphor		

# Poem 1:

## Quieter than Snow

I went to school a day too soon  
And couldn't understand  
Why silence hung in the yard like sheets  
Nothing to flap or spin, no creaks  
Or shocks of voices, only air.

And the car park empty of teachers' cars  
Only the first September leaves  
Dropping like paper. No racks of bikes,  
No kicking legs, no fights,  
No voices, laughter, anything.

Yet the door was open. My feet  
Sucked down the corridor. My reflection  
Walked with me past the hall.  
My classroom smelt of nothing. And the silence  
Rolled like thunder in my ears.

At every desk a still child stared at me  
Teachers walked through walls and back again  
Cupboard doors swung open, and out crept  
More silent children, and still more.

They tiptoed round me  
Touched me with ice-cold hands  
And opened up their mouths with laughter  
That was

Quieter than snow.

BERLIE DOHERTY



