Poem Overviews 1: *When We Two Parted*

1. What is the subject of the poem, *When We Two Parted*?
   - The poem is about a love affair that has ended.

2. What is suggested by the following line in *When We Two Parted*?
   - Pale grew thy cheek and cold,
   - This line suggests that the other person grew ‘cold’ towards the speaker and withdrew from the relationship.

Poem Overviews 1: *Love’s Philosophy*

1. What language feature is used at the end of each verse in *Love’s Philosophy*?
   - Rhetorical questions are used at the end of each verse.

2. What kind of imagery is used to describe love in *Love’s Philosophy*?
   - Images of nature are used to describe love.

Poem Overviews 1: *Porphyria’s Lover*

1. Who is the speaker of the poem, *Porphyria’s Lover*?
   - The speaker is Porphyria’s lover.
How does the **speaker** kill Porphyria in the poem, *Porphyria’s Lover*?

The **speaker** kills Porphyria by strangling her with her hair.

What **person** is *Sonnet 29 – ‘I think of thee!’* written in?

The poem is written in the first person.

What **type of sentence** is used to open *Sonnet 29 – ‘I think of thee!’*?

An **exclamation** is used to open the poem.

The title of the poem, *Neutral Tones*, refers to both the winter setting and the relationship – both are drained of colour and life.

This language feature is an **oxymoron**.
Poem Overviews 2: The Farmer's Bride

What is the poem, The Farmer's Bride, about?

The poem describes the farmer's wife, who seems to be very shy and nervous of her husband and other men.

Poem Overviews 2: The Farmer's Bride

What language features are used in these lines from The Farmer's Bride and why?

Shy as a leveret, swift as he, Straight and slight as a young larch tree,

Similes are used in these lines to describe the farmer's wife, to emphasise how timid and scared she is and to show that she is connected with the natural world. Rhyme is also used to highlight the comparisons.

Poem Overviews 2: Walking Away

What relationship is described in Walking Away?

The relationship described is between the poet, Cecil Day Lewis, and his son during his childhood.

Poem Overviews 2: Walking Away

What word is repeated a number of times in Walking Away and what does this highlight?

The word 'away' is repeated a number of times in the poem, which highlights the fact that the poet's son is growing up and becoming less dependent.

Poem Overviews 2: Letters from Yorkshire

Describe the two lifestyles that are contrasted in Letters from Yorkshire.

The two lifestyles that are contrasted in the poem are his physical, outdoor lifestyle and her (the speaker's) indoor, office-based lifestyle.
The poem describes what seems to be a close relationship, but not a romantic one.

The poem is written in the present tense.

Partly autobiographical means that the poem is based on real events, but certain details might be made up.

The poem has a structure of six regular, four-line verses, with a regular rhyme scheme.

The speaker admires his father's skill and expertise ploughing the land.

What kind of relationship is described in *Letters from Yorkshire*?

In what tense is the poem, *Eden Rock*, written?

The poem, *Eden Rock*, is partly autobiographical. What does this mean?

Describe the structure of the poem, *Follower*.

What does the speaker admire about his father in *Follower*?
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<tr>
<th>Poem Overviews 3: Mother, any distance</th>
<th>What type of relationship is described in <em>Mother, any distance</em>?</th>
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<td>The poem describes a relationship between a mother and a son.</td>
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<th>Why might the poet have used language of space exploration in <em>Mother, any distance</em>?</th>
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<td></td>
<td>The <em>language</em> of space exploration is used to highlight that moving into independence is like moving into a vast expanse of the unknown.</td>
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<th>Poem Overviews 3: Before You Were Mine</th>
<th>What kind of <em>tone</em> is used in <em>Before You Were Mine</em>?</th>
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<td>The poem’s <em>tone</em> is a mixture of admiration and wistfulness.</td>
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<th>Poem Overviews 3: Before You Were Mine</th>
<th>Who is the <em>speaker</em> talking about in <em>Before You Were Mine</em>?</th>
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<td>The <em>speaker</em> is talking about her mother, before her daughter (the speaker) was born.</td>
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<th>Poem Overviews 4: Winter Swans</th>
<th>What does the lack of punctuation at the end of <em>Winter Swans</em> suggest?</th>
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<td>The lack of <em>punctuation</em> at the end of the poem suggests that the relationship isn’t over and may be continued.</td>
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Poem Overviews 4: Winter Swans

What kind of relationship is explored in Winter Swans?

The poem explores a relationship between two lovers.

Poem Overviews 4: Singh Song!

What form does the poem, Singh Song!, take?

The poem takes the form of a dramatic monologue.

Poem Overviews 4: Singh Song!

What is the effect of the use of italics for certain lines in Singh Song!?

The use of italics has the effect of highlighting certain lines as frequent occurrences, ‘rituals’ or habits.

Poem Overviews 4: Climbing My Grandfather

Why are prepositions used throughout Climbing My Grandfather?

Prepositions are used throughout the poem to mark the stages of the climb and the progress made by the child.

Poem Overviews 4: Climbing My Grandfather

What is the extended metaphor used in Climbing My Grandfather?

The poem uses the extended metaphor of climbing a mountain to describe a small child climbing on his grandfather.