

English Literature – Poetry Anthology

Remote Learning

Page 1	Context Quiz
Page 2	La Belle Dame Sans Merci – Gap Fill
Page 3	She Walks in Beauty – Gap Fill
Page 4	A Complaint – Gap Fill
Page 5	A Child to his Sick Grandfather – Gap Fill
Page 6	Short Answer Questions
Page 7 - 10	Language and Structural analysis
Page 11	Exam style questions and poetry grid

Context Quiz

- 1) What are key features of the Romantic era?

- 2) What are key features of the Victorian era?

- 3) Give one piece of specific context about John Keats in relation to La Belle Dame Sans Merci

- 4) Give one piece of specific context about Joanna Baillie in relation to A Child to His Sick Grandfather

- 5) Give one piece of specific context about Lord Byron in relation to She Walks in Beauty

- 6) Give one piece of specific context about William Wordsworth in relation to A Complaint

- 7) Give one piece of specific context about Thomas Hardy in relation to Neutral Tones

- 8) Give one piece of specific context about Elizabeth Barrett Browning in relation to Sonnet 43

La Belle Dame Sans Merci – Gap Fill

Context – general

This is a _____ poem. It covers key _____ beliefs of _____, _____ and _____.

Context – specific

John Keats had _____ (and died of it). He wrote this poem during his illness. This is said to be the inspiration for _____.

Summary

An _____ finds a Knight alone and very ill or dying on a hillside. The Knight tells the story of how he got there; a _____ lured him in. It appeared she loved him but she put him in danger. The Knight had a _____ in which he was warned of her danger. He wakes up alone, cold and _____.

Key Quotation 1

“O what _____”

- Start of poem
- Repeated twice
- Introduces Knight as opposite to traditional image.

Key Quotation 2

“No _____”

- Repeated at start and end
- Desolate setting matches lonely surroundings.
- Silence at start and end symbolises Knight’s death

Key Quotation 3

“And there I _____”

- start of the nightmare, showing danger of lady
- Caesura symbolises danger
- Inconsistent with rest of narrative; shows a change

She Walks in Beauty – Gap Fill

Context – general

This is a _____ poem. It covers key _____ beliefs of _____ and _____.

Context – specific

Lord Byron was said to have seen a woman dressed in black at a _____ and fallen in love with her beauty. He has chosen to _____ typical beauty conventions with his descriptions. This poem was originally intended to be set to _____.

Summary

The narrator describes a woman he's seen, describing her _____ in turn. He thinks her beauty is _____. He suggests that her appearance reflects her _____ – she has spent her life doing good things.

Key Quotation 1

“She walks _____”

- _____ tense narration making her beauty eternal
- Extended _____ – subverts typical beauty ideals
- She _____ beauty – poet is _____

Key Quotation 2

“One _____”

- _____, employed throughout to show how she is a perfect _____ of opposites
- _____ line reflects this

Key Quotation 3

“A heart _____”

- Her physical beauty reflects her _____ beauty
- _____; a part represents the whole
- She is _____ and pure
- Exclamative shows narrator's _____

A Complaint – Gap Fill

Context – general

This is a _____ poem. It covers key _____ beliefs of _____ and _____.

Context – specific

Wordsworth wrote this poem about his friend Samuel Taylor _____. _____ went away for years after a drugs overdose and returned _____. Wordsworth felt their friendship had _____ significantly.

Summary

The narrator complains that their relationship with a friend has changed _____. They struggle to accept the change and are _____ by the situation.

Key Quotation 1

“A fountain _____”

- The start of the extended _____ of water, showing the friendship used to be beautiful and dynamic.
- The two were clearly _____ friends.

Key Quotation 2

“A _____ well”

- Continuation of extended _____ of water.

The relationship is _____, stagnant but still there

Key Quotation 3

“Hath _____”

- _____ ideas at beginning and end of poem
- Acts as a _____
- Acts as a firm _____ about the state of relationship (_____)

A Child to His Sick Grandfather

Context – general

This is a _____ poem. It covers key _____ beliefs of _____, _____ and the _____.

Context – specific

Joanna Baillie's _____ a few years before this poem was written, would could be an inspiration.

Summary

The narrator (a child) is addressing his _____ on his sick bed. The narrator describes the grandfather's _____, and how things are _____ now – he is desperate for his grandfather to recover. It is _____ that the grandfather ____.

Key Quotation 1

“You will _____”

- _____ question
- Presents the grandson's _____ wish for the grandfather to stay alive
- Change in _____ which highlights narrator's _____

Key Quotation 2

“You _____”

- _____ of “dad” throughout shows how close the grandson is to his grandfather
- Deliberately vague but implies he has passed away (could be sleeping)

Key Quotation 3

“_____ and _____”

- The grandfather's health is rapidly _____
- This sets the _____ for the poem
- _____ with grandfather's earlier health

Language and Structural Analysis

Below are extracts from each of the Romantic and Victorian poems. Annotate them for language and structure.

O what can ail thee, knight-at-arms,
Alone and palely loitering?
The sedge has withered from the lake,
And no birds sing.

How lank and thin your beard hangs down!
Scant are the white hairs on your crown;
How wan and hollow are your cheeks!
Your brow is rough with crossing breaks;
But yet, for all his strength be fled,
I love my own old dad.

She walks in beauty, like the night
Of cloudless climes and starry skies
And all that's best of dark and bright
Meet in her aspect and her eyes:
Thus mellow'd to that tender light
Which heaven to gaudy day denies.

There is a change—and I am poor;
Your love hath been, nor long ago,
A fountain at my fond heart's door,
Whose only business was to flow;
And flow it did; not taking heed
Of its own bounty, or my need.

Since then, keen lessons that love deceives,
And wrings with wrong, have shaped to me
Your face, and the God-curst sun, and a tree,
And a pond edged with grayish leaves

I love thee with the passion, put to use
In my old griefs, ... and with my childhood's faith:
I love thee with the love I seemed to lose
With my lost Saints, – I love thee with the breath,
Smiles, tears, of all my life! – and, if God choose,
I shall but love thee better after death.

...Oh sir, she smiled, no doubt
Whene'er I passed her; but who passed without
Much the same smile? This grew; I gave commands;
Then all smiles stopped together. There she stands
As if alive. Will't please you rise? We'll meet
The company below, then...

Exam style questions

- 1) How is the theme of suffering shown in La Belle Dame Sans Merci?
- 2) How is the theme of memory shown in A Child to His Sick Grandfather?
- 3) How is the theme of adoration shown in She Walks in Beauty?
- 4) How is the theme of distance and separation shown in A Complaint?
- 5) How is the theme of Romantic Love shown in Neutral Tones?
- 6) How is the theme of desire and longing shown in Sonnet 43?
- 7) How is the theme of death shown in My Last Duchess?

Poetry Grid

Fill in the grid with which themes you think relate to which poem:

	Romantic love	Family	Memory	Desire and longing	Adoration	Death	Suffering	Distance and separation
La Belle Dame Sans Merci								
A Child to His Sick Grandfather								
She Walks in Beauty								
A Complaint								
Neutral Tones								
Sonnet 43								
My Last Duchess								