

Y9 Poetry: Faces of Love

Why?

This unit is designed to expose you to a wide range poetry with one common theme: LOVE! Poetry is an important key concept in literature, it is unique in its language structure and form allowing writers to express profound ideas and emotions in small capsules. It is important to love poetry from all eras as context is key to understanding.

Speak like a literary critic...

Nostalgia	A sentimental longing or affection for something from the past. E.g childhood.
Profound	Something very great or intense. E.g The day had a profound effect on me.
Conflicted	Confused or uncertain about how you feel or what to do.
Juxtapose	Two contrasting ideas put close together to draw attention to their difference.
Connotations	A cultural or emotional association with a word or phrase.
Infatuation	A short lived but intense passion for someone or something.
Inconsolable	Suffering a level of grief where one cannot be comforted.
Histrionic	Overly dramatic or emotional often seeking attention.
Accusatory	Indication of the belief that someone has done something wrong.
Emancipation	The process of being set free from social or political restrictions.
Cathartic	Something which provides relief through open expression of emotion. Outcome is catharsis.

What other emotive vocabulary can you think of surrounding 'love'? Add it to your glossary as we learn.

Key Concepts:

Parental Love

Parental love is what could be called a 'poisoned chalice' or 'double-edged sword.' Whilst love for a child runs deep in maternal and paternal instincts, there is also the element of letting go and being constantly vulnerable to pain watching your child grow older and navigate the dangers of the world and adult life.

Romantic Love

Romantic love can be so many things, both positive and negative. It can be all consuming and make your life feel complete, whilst also clouding your vision and masking some ugly truths. It has the power to elevate and crush!

Twisted/Toxic Love

Toxic love is sadly a prevalent part of life, something we are all vulnerable to encountering and experiencing. Some relationships can be subtly toxic and damaging whereas some, like in our poem, can be physically and mentally damaging in drastic ways.

Unrequited Love

Just as easily as we can fall into deep and passionate love with another human, we can fall out of it too. Just like Romeo's love for Rosaline, sometimes things are just not mutual.

Self Love

Arguably the most important love of all, self love is about acceptance and freedom through loving oneself just as one is, flaws and all. No-one is perfect but loving yourself is extremely important: Be your own No1 FAN!

Love is an abstract concept and can present itself or be interpreted in many ways.

Vocabulary

Hyperbole	Exaggerated statements or claims which are not literal.
Dramatic Monologue	A poem in the form of a speech or narrative by an imagined person, in which the speaker inadvertently reveals aspects of their character while describing a particular situation or series of events.
Ballad	A poem or song written in short stanzas, often written to be performed to music.
Context	The relevant information about author or era related to a text which allow it to be fully understood.
Stanza	A verse of poetry (like a paragraph).
Caesura	A pause in a line of poetry usually caused by punctuation.
Enjambment	The continuation of a sentence beyond the end of a line of poetry – where lines run on.
Rhyme scheme	Ordered pattern of rhymes at the end of the lines of a poem.
Tone	The general attitude of a piece of writing. E.g sad/uplifting.
Semantic Field	A set of words with a related meaning.
Volta	A turning point in a poem where there is noticeable change in tone/action.
Dialectal Markers	Words or phrases which reveal accent or place of the voice/writer.
Monosyllabic	Single syllable words often used together to create an effect.
Anaphora	Repetition of a word or sequence of words at the start of sentences/lines.
Microcosm	Encapsulating in miniature the characteristics of something much larger. E.g. one marginalised voice representing the whole of a marginalised community.
Macrocosm	A large often worldwide structure contrasted with a small representative part (microcosm).

Recall and Embed: Which devices are we already aware of and which are unique to poetry?