

POINT

I believe that...
It is my view that...
In my opinion...
The author is trying to convey the message that...
It appears/seems that...

EVIDENCE

When the author writes...
A clear example of this is...
This can be shown by...
When considering statements such as...
The use of...

LINK IT BACK TO THE QUESTION

TECHNIQUE

~ LINES ~ ENJAMBMENT ~ END STOPPING
~ ASSONANCE ~ ALLITERATION ~ METAPHOR ~ SIMILE ~
PERSONIFICATION ~ ONOMATOPOEIA ~ REPETITION ~ PUNS ~
CONNOTATION ~ DOUBLE MEANINGS ~ AMBIGUITY ~ WORD
ORDER ~ ADJECTIVES ~ KEY WORDS AND PHRASES ~ SLANG ~
MISSPELLINGS ~ INTERTEXTUALITY ~ STYLE

LINK IT BACK TO THE QUESTION

ANALYSIS

This demonstrates that the author wants the reader to feel/think/believe...
The effect of [INSERT TECHNIQUE] is to make the reader consider/contemplate/evaluate...
Based on this evidence, it appears that...
It is clear from the quote above that...
This is significant because it suggests that...
The author uses these literary techniques to...

LINK IT BACK TO THE QUESTION


LINK

SO WHAT? WHY DOES THIS POINT MATTER?

Key Poems (you may not study all of these)	
Nettles by Vernon Scannell	'Nettles' would appear to focus on a real incident involving one of Scannell's sons. It demonstrates an intense empathy with the suffering of the child (and indeed children everywhere). It could be argued that there's a sense of strong personal tragedy in Scannell's work. Of his six children, we are told that 'one handicapped son died as an infant (movingly written about in <i>The Tiger and the Rose</i>), and another son much later died in a motorcycle accident'.
Kid by Simon Armitage	The main theme is that of Robin's bitterness towards Batman and also jealousy that Batman was always the more important one.
Brothers by Andrew Forster	Critics have described Forster as a 'wonderful storyteller' whose poems are 'populated with family and memoir' and 'people and places'. He has a particular interest in biographical poetry, and draws on common experiences of childhood and rites of passage in 'Brothers', a poem which seems influenced by his own experiences and is littered with everyday references to 'Sheffield Wednesday', bus stops and 'threadbare fields'. Forster's own comments about the poem offer an interesting insight into his writing process: 'Brothers' was one of a number of poems based on childhood memories that I wrote in a group. I'd never really written about childhood and suddenly I was faced with these extraordinarily vivid memories. The more I wrote the more the memories just kept on coming. I'm sure that all of us who have brothers and sisters have occasionally behaved in ways we've later regretted. As a poet I'm interested in exploring tiny moments that seem to have huge significance. The incident in 'Brothers' seemed to be one of those moments. Combining a clarity and simplicity of language with a strong visual and nostalgic quality, Forster also makes use of a condensed vernacular style to reflect the language of the children in the poem.
My Sister Maude by Christina Rossetti	'Sister Maude' picks up many of the themes of Rossetti's life but isn't autobiographical. The poem's story comes from a traditional ballad called 'The Cruel Sister'. It tells the story of a jealous older sister who kills her prettier younger sister by pushing her into the river and drowning her. These folk songs were recorded with enthusiasm by Victorian collectors, such as Sir Walter Scott, and were popular reading with poets of the time. Alfred Tennyson, another Victorian poet, wrote a poem based on the same source. It is called 'The Sisters' Shame' and in his version the older sister not only kills her sister, but also murders the man they are both in love with. The poem shows clearly that the older sister is mad! If you put Tennyson's and Rossetti's poems next to each other you may be able to spot clues that they read each other's work – they seem to have influenced each other in their choice of words. 'Sister Maude' is quite mysterious, and it is not at all clear what has happened – you may find that reading the traditional sources and looking at Tennyson's poem will help you guess at the hidden 'back-story'.
Praise Song for my Mother by Grace Nicholls	This poem is a short poem that focuses on the personal experience of the poet, given voice through a first person speaker. It is a celebratory poem, part of an African tradition of handing down songs from generation to generation to sustain tribal history.
Quickdraw by Carol Ann Duffy	The poem 'Quickdraw' is part of Duffy's collection of love poems, <i>Rapture</i> , for which she was awarded the T.S. Eliot prize in 2005. The collection spans the highs and lows of a romantic relationship and is personal, emotional and elegiac. 'Quickdraw' marks the halfway point in the collection and employs the use of an extended Western conceit to relay the experience of a painful conversation to the reader. Although repeated references to the West make the poem appear light in tone, 'Quickdraw' shows the speaker's vulnerability as she clearly suffers at the hands of her lover and appears to come off the worse after the showdown.
Manhunt by Simon Armitage	This poem is about a wife who is trying in vain to care for her husband who has been severely injured in war, and she is talking about his injuries. This type of poem is known as a 'Laura's Poem', because it is written from the point of the wife, the use of 'The' in the title of the poem is a definite article, rather than just calling it 'Manhunt'.

Poetic Devices	
Simile	Comparing something to something else using 'like' or 'as'. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The water well was as dry as a bone The soldier was like a brave lion.
Metaphor	A comparison which is not literally true. Does not use 'like' or 'as'. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The water well was a dry bone. The soldier was a brave lion.
Personification	Giving an object human characteristics (emotions, sensations, speech, physical movements, etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The cruel waves swallowed the poor swimmer.
Onomatopoeia	A word that names a sound, but also sounds like that sound. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smash, splash, bang, crash, thud, zoom, sizzle, whizz, boom
Alliteration	The repetition of an initial letter or sound in closely linked words. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't dream it. Drive it. Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.
Assonance	the repetition of a vowel sound in a sentence to create an internal rhyme. The sound does not always have to be at the start of a word. For example: The moon rose over an open field
Enjambment	Poets use enjambment to compose sentences that run on for several lines, where the thought doesn't end by 'straddling' the entire poem before concluding with a full stop.
Oxymoron	a figure of speech containing words that seem to contradict each other. Sometimes they're used to create a little bit of drama for the reader. A common oxymoron is the phrase "the same difference." This phrase qualifies as an oxymoron because the words "same" and "difference" have opposite meanings. Bringing them together into one phrase produces a verbally puzzling, yet engaging, effect.
Repetition	Rhyming is a form of repetition, but you don't have to write poems that rhyme. You could make the last line of the poem the same as the first line, or have a little phrase that you repeat, or even repeat a chunk of three or four lines. When you use repetition, it gives your poem a shape and meaning.
Stanza	A grouped set of lines, usually set off from others by a blank line or indentation. Stanzas can have regular rhyme and metrical schemes, though stanzas are not strictly required to have either.
Ambiguity	Ambiguity means that what a thing is, is not clear. Literally, the word refers to a choice between two different things. Words or sentences that are ambiguous can lead to misunderstandings (people get the wrong meaning). This can sometimes be serious, but it can also be funny. Jokes often rely on ambiguity .
Connotation	an idea or feeling which a word invokes or suggests.
Pun	A pun is a joke that makes a play on words, typically by using words that sound similar but have different meanings .

Love



Relationships

AQA POETRY ANTHOLOGY
LITERATURE PAPER 2

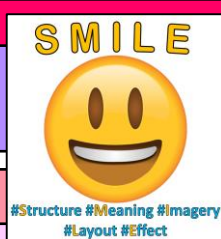


A good essay conclusion :

- Is the **final** idea left with the reader at the end of an essay.
- **links back** to the essay question by briefly **restating your main points**.
- includes a final thought or **reflection** to highlight the significance of the topic.

A good essay introduction should:

- **catch** your reader's **attention**.
- give **background** on your topic.
- present your main **point**.



Semi-colons separate two independent clauses

A whale is not a fish: it is a warm-blooded mammal.

Colons separate two dependent clauses

Whales are mammals **while** sharks are fish
 → whales are mammals; sharks are fish.

Imagery

- ☺ **Alliteration** - the repeating of initial sounds.
- ☺ **Assonance** - is the term used for the repetition of vowel sounds within consecutive words as in, 'rags of green weed hung down...!'
- ☺ **Metaphor** - comparing two things by saying one is the other.
- ☺ **Simile** - comparing two things saying one is like or as the other.
- ☺ **Personification** - giving something non-human human qualities.
- ☺ **Onomatopoeia** - words that sound like the thing they describe.
- ☺ **Repetition** - does the poet repeat words or phrases?

Meaning

- ☺ What is the poem about?
- ☺ Who is the speaker? - are they dramatized (a character)
- ☺ Who is being spoken to or addressed?
- ☺ What is being spoken about?
- ☺ Theme(s) of the poem - what is it really about?
- ☺ Setting/culture - where's the poem set? Culture it is from/about?
- ☺ Where does the poem "get to" from start to end?

Language

- ☺ What kinds of words are used?
- ☺ **Puns**- a pun is a play on words - "Shear Class!" if Shearer scores.
- ☺ **Connotation** - associations that words have (as "stallion" connotes a certain kind of horse with certain sorts of uses)?
- ☺ **Double meanings** - "butts in" - putting bottoms in or interrupting.
- ☺ **Ambiguity** - is the word or phrase deliberately unclear? Could it mean opposite things or many different things?
- ☺ **Word order**- are the words in an unusual order - why?
- ☺ **Adjectives** - what are the key describing words?
- ☺ **Key words and phrases** - do any of the words or phrases stand out? Do they shock? Are the words "violent" or "sad" etc?
- ☺ **Slang or unusual words and misspellings** - Does the poet use slang or informal language? Are American words used?
- ☺ **Intertextuality** - does the poem reference another text?
- ☺ **Style** - does the poet copy another style? (Newspaper, play etc)
- ☺ **Characters**- if there are characters how do they speak?

Effect

- ☺ How does this poem effect the reader?

DON'T FORGET TO LINK!

Structure

- ☺ **Rhyme** - is there a rhyme scheme? Couplets? Internal rhyme?
- ☺ **Rhythm** - how many **syllables** per line? Is it regular or free verse? Why are some different lengths?
- ☺ **Stanzas** - How many? How do they change? Is there a narrative?
- ☺ **Lines** - how many are their in each verse? Do some stand out?
- ☺ **Enjambment** - do the lines "run on" to the next line or stanza?
- ☺ **End stopping** - does each line finish at the end of a sentence?
- ☺ **Form** - does the poem have a shape to it?

Essay sentence starters: consider using some of these in your writing.

Identify: Identify a quotation that answers the question	EXPLAIN: Explain how the quotation answers the question	EXPLORE: Explore another meaning of the quotation	LINK: Link one of your ideas with another quotation or idea in the text.
The author shows/ highlights/outlines that (main idea/connotation) shown in the quotation (insert appropriate quotation).	This shows...	In addition, this shows...	This is also show earlier in the text when...
The author emphasises (main idea /connotation) through the use of quotation (insert appropriate quotation	This quotation highlights...	It could also be said that...	This is a repeated symbol from earlier in the text when...
The author suggests (main idea / connotation). We know this because it says (insert appropriate connotation).	This example makes it obvious that...	The word (insert specific word from the quotation) tells the reader that...	This links to the idea that...
The author implies (main idea / connotation). This is demonstrated through the phrase (insert appropriate quotation).	Here, the author displays...	The use of the verb (insert verb from the quotation) suggests...	This is also presented later in the text when...
The author uses (subject specific terminology) to highlight (main idea / connotation). This is communicated through use of the phrase (insert appropriate quotation).	Here (insert author's name) shows us that...	This is interesting because...	The author has also demonstrated this when...
A final occasion when the author shows (main idea / connotation) is when (insert event). This is evident through the line (insert appropriate quotation).	This reveals that...	This leaves the reader with the impression that...	The idea of (insert relevant idea here) is reinforced when...

Word Class

Nouns	Determiners	Adjectives	Verbs	Adverbs	Prepositions
Proper nouns Concrete nouns Pronouns Abstract nouns	qualify the noun	describe the noun	'doing' or 'being' words	describe the verb	show you where a noun is in relation to something else
<i>Cinderella, Shrek, Birmingham, Tuesday, January, Mr Roberts, McDonalds, Mum chair, sky, uniform, rucksack, pen, notebook, wolf, child he, she, we, they, you, I, my, their, yours, mine, his, hers, ours boredom, anger, rage, despair, disappointment, happiness, bliss</i>	<i>a, an, the, some, many, several, five, one thousand, plenty</i>	<i>hostile, tyrannical, beastly, monstrous, powerful, vicious, repulsive, obnoxious</i>	<i>roar, growl, snarl, hiss, slither, bellow, stomp, crunch, lurk, prowl</i>	<i>understandably, seldom, straight, fast, often, never, always, very, quite, too</i>	<i>under, over, behind, adjacent to, opposite, in front of, behind, ahead</i>