Paper One Section B

Unseen Poetry Comparison – Knowledge Organiser

Assessment: Two poems to compare on the theme of love. Critical quote to respond to or more simple question on presentation of love. Poems are usually from different time periods.

Ideas and Concepts: Presentation of love, gender, power, conventions and expectations, commitment, infidelity, sexuality, desire, barriers to love, time, death

Approach to planning:

- 1. Highlight key words in the question
- 2. Read both poems carefully at least twice
- 3. Plan answer focusing on at least two areas of comparison.
- 4. As you plan, consider how you meet all areas of the mark scheme: A01 question, A02 methods, A03 history and typicality, A04 connections, A05 response to debate.

Structure of writing:

- 1. Thesis: Overview, history and presentation of love
- 2. Simple comparison: narrator, voice, perspective, message etc.
- More complex comparisons: specific ideas about love, specific methods used – structure, language etc.
- 4. Conclusion: return to key word in the question

Typicality (dates are very approximate):

Medieval literature (1000 – 1485): The Dark Ages, lack of authorship, growth of literature in English (rather than French/Latin), epic poems, alliteration and metaphor Renaissance literature (1485-1600): Rebirth – especially of Latin and Greek Culture, Petrarch's Laura and Italian influence, Petrarchan (8-6) and Elizabethan sonnets (4-4-4-2), rhyming couplets, volta, blazon, extended metaphor, lyric poetry, ballads, elegies Cavalier, Metaphysical and Restoration literature (1600-1720): Civil War, Charles I execution – no monarch, Puritanical beliefs – closure of theatre, cavalier versus roundhead traditions, metaphysical use of conceit, Restoration literature as celebration of freedom

Romanticism (1780-1840): Enlightenment versus Romanticist thought, attitudes towards nature, honesty/directness in style, emotion/imagination over reason, ballad form, Victorian (1840-1910): themes: sexual ethics, morality, class, industrialised spaces, narrators, women as angels of the house. The Gothic. Dramatic monologues. Modernism (1910-1950): fragmentation, streams of consciousness, discomfort with the city, hopelessness, discordant sequencing, ambiguity. An end to simple endings and big narratives.

Twentieth century/confessional poetry (1950-present day): Identity, irony and word play, explicit, playful, lyrical.

Key poetic terminology: narrator, tone, imagery, allusion, hyperbole, rhyme, refrain, repetition, conceit, sonnet (Petrarchan, Shakespearean), octave/sestet, blazon,