

## Y9 BEING HUMAN POETRY: KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

### Key Skills

- **Read, understand and annotate** poems about life
- Apply **knowledge of the context** to analysis and interpretation
- **Identify and discuss** poets' use of **terminology**
- Write **analytically** about language
- **Explore connotations of language/structure**
- Learn **unseen poetry** skills

### Key methods

- **Voice:** The speaker in the poem
- **Tone:** the mood implied by an author's word choice and the way that the text can make a reader feel.
- **Enjambment:** the continuation of a sentence without a pause beyond the end of a line, couplet, or stanza
- **Meter:** The rhythm or beat of a poem
- **Rhyming couplet:** a rhyming pair of successive lines of verse, typically of the same length.

### Poetry Anthology:

#### Birth

**Metaphors by Sylvia Plath.** Uses metaphors to explore ideas of pregnancy and parenthood

**The Victory by Ann Stevenson.** Ideas about the struggle of birth and parental love. Uses metaphors and similes



#### Growing Up

**Brothers by Andrew Foster.** Use metaphors to describe the distance between brothers as they grow up.

**Poem for my sister by Linda Lochhead.** Uses the voice of a sister and an extended metaphor to demonstrate sibling differences.

**I remember, I remember by Thomas Hood.** Uses repetition to emphasise missing home comforts.



#### Love

**I Wanna Be Yours by John Cooper Clarke.** Uses repetition and metaphor to discuss their hope for a relationship

**At an intersection by Brian Bilston.** Uses a Venn diagram to discuss the separate voices in a relationship.

**Ending by Gavin Ewart.** Uses rhyming couplets to describe a break up.

**Love after love by Derek Walcott.** Uses an advisory tone to suggest the most important love is self-love (taking care of yourself).



#### Parenthood

**Divorce by Jackie Kay.** Uses similes and the voice of a child to demonstrate the struggles of parent/child relationships.

**Praise Song for my Mother by Grace Nichols.** A celebration of a loving Parent. Uses repetition, metaphor and natural imagery



#### Death

**Death is smaller than I thought by Adrian Mitchell.**

This poem encourages us to believe that love lives on after death.

**Do not go gentle into that good night by Dylan Thomas.** Uses an advisory tone to suggest that life is precious and should be fought for at every turn.

### Poetry toolkit (How do I read a poem?)

**Title** – What does the title suggest about the poem?

**Tone** – Who is the speaker? How would you describe their thoughts/feelings? What tone/mood/atmosphere is created?

**Language** – What imagery is used? What examples of figurative language can you identify? What effects are created?

**Structure** – What do you notice about the layout of the poem? How does it start/end? Is there a rhyme scheme? Why?

### Help/Support

- [The poet] suggests that ...
- The line/phrase “...” tells the reader that...
- This implies/suggests/explores the idea that...
- The word/phrase/image “...” shows/implies/suggests
- [The poet] may have wanted to show that...