

Year 8: Poetry - The Romantics

Terminology

Alliteration: repetition of the same letter at the start of two or more words
Connotations: associated meaning of words – things you think of
Imagery: visually descriptive language
Metaphor: saying one thing is another
Onomatopoeia: a figure of speech where words are used to imitate sounds
Personification: giving objects human actions or emotions
Sibilance: the repetition of an “s” sound in two or more words
Simile: To describe one thing as another using like or as
Theme: the central idea of a literary work

Structure

Caesura: a piece of punctuation in the middle of a line creating a pause in rhythm
End-stopped line: a line ending in a full pause
Enjambment: a sentence which continues with no punctuation into the line below
Iambic pentameter: a line of writing that consists of ten syllables in a specific pattern
Repetition: a repeated word, phrase or image – usually used to emphasise importance
Rhyming Couplet: two lines of poetry that rhyme one after the other
Rhyme: words that sound the same at the end
Stanza: two or more lines of poetry that form a division in a poem (paragraphs)

Form

Ballad: a narrative poem written in four-line stanzas.
Blank verse: non rhyming lines written in iambic pentameter
Dramatic monologue: a type of poem in which a speaker addresses an internal listener or the reader
Free verse: poetry without a regular pattern or rhyme
Ode: a poem written in praise or celebration of a person, thing or event
Pastoral: a poem about nature or simple country life
Sonnet: a fourteen line poem in iambic pentameter and (usually) regular rhyme.

Key Vocabulary

Speaker: the voice behind the poem – the person we imagine to be speaking. The speaker is not the poet. Even if the poem is autobiographical, you should treat the speaker as a fictional character.
Sublime: a sense of grandeur or power; something which inspires a feeling of awe and amazement.
Symbolism: a literary device that uses symbols (words, images, abstract ideas) to represent more than the literal meaning
Oppression: the exercise of authority or power in a cruel, unkind or unjust manner. To want to hold someone back.

Key themes

- Nature
- Oppression
- Religion
- Wonder
- Childhood
- Self-expression
- Outcast of society

Context

What? Artistic movement that celebrates nature and human emotion
When? 1780 – 1840
Why? A reaction against the Industrial Revolution and Rationalism of the Enlightenment

Answering questions on a poem

Point	Present your opinion on the question by clearly explaining your point of view.
Evidence / Quote	Pick some proof from the text to support your opinion (ideally a quotation you can present with quotation marks)
Explain	Clearly explain your quotation and how the evidence you have used supports your opinion.
Zoom / Analyse	Which specific words or phrases prove your point. Use terminology to explain the impact of these words.