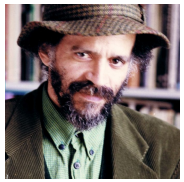
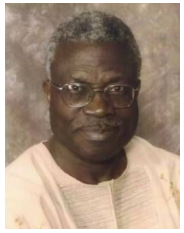
English - Poetry From Other Cultures

Poems

Half Caste by John Agard		**Half Caste** is a poem which is influenced by Agard's own experiences of being mixed race. In this poem, he expresses his anger towards the use of the term **'half caste'** because it implies that someone is half worthy and less important when they belong to two races/cultures.
Search For My Tongue by Sujata Bhatt.		**Sujata Bhatt's** poem is about what it is like to live in a foreign country, feeling disconnected from your cultural background. The poet feels, at the start of her poem, that she has lost her original language now that she is living abroad.
Presents From My Aunts in Pakistan by Moniza Alvi		**Presents from my Aunts in Pakistan**" is a poem by **Moniza Alvi**. **Alvi** describes some gifts that she receives from her **aunts**.The poem is about the poet's struggle to find which culture she truly belongs to; **Pakistani** or English. She feels the clash of cultures and her friends struggle to understand this.
Not My Business by Niya Osundare		Not My Business tells a story of a commentator who passively watches as his neighbours are arrested. He narrates the horrors faced by people of the Abacha Regime in Nigeria from 1993-1998 which involved the brutal arrests and murders of lots of people who were seen as a threat to the dictator. When the narrator himself is arrested, we see that the future is unknown for all citizens and that he should have expected this a long ago.
Love After Love by Derek Walcott		The poem invites readers to explore their own identities and Willmott plays with the idea that being from different cultures shapes your identity and multiple selves. In the end, it's just the reader and that "stranger" in the mirror, sitting across from each other and wondering, "Who am I, really?"

Poetry Vocabulary and Devices

Alliteration	When two or more words begin with the same letter or sound.
Simile	Comparing something to something else using 'like' or 'as.' E.g. He was as busy as a bee.
Metaphor	Comparing something to something else by saying it is that thing. E.g. 'My mum's food makes my tastebuds explode.'
Personification	Giving an inanimate object (something that isn't alive) human emotions or qualities. E.g. 'The sun always smiles down at my country.'
Emotive Language	Words that make the reader feel something. E.g. Using 'horrifying' instead of 'bad.'
Hyperbole	Exaggerating the truth for dramatic effect. E.g. 'At Christmas, we eat enough Turkey to sink a ship!'
Theme	A recurring idea in a piece of literature or art.
Rhyme	A similar sound between two words, which are usually at the end of two lines.
Creole Patois	A different language created when words are influenced from other cultures and is a native language to the children of those who are from another country.

Some things to include in your essays:

To get the high grade that you want, throughout the main body of your essay you want to PEE in your essay. That means to make a; Point, Example and Explanation. Use the grid to help you.

P	How are the poet's feelings presented in the extract? (You only need one word e.g. happy)	*In the poem, the writer uses _____ to present his feelings of _____.*
E	Can you select evidence from the extract to show how she is presented?	*Evidence to show this is '_____'.*
E	How is the point shown in the evidence you have chosen?	*This suggests/denotes/implies/shows/reveals that....because...*
Z	Zoom into key words and phrases that are interesting/tell the reader something.	*The word '_____' is interesting because it makes the reader think of…* *It is also associated with ...which reflects the poet's feelings because...*
L	Link back to the writer's intentions and the message of the poem.	*The poet wants the reader to know that…* *This creates the impression that...because...*

Within your essay, you will want to use two poems and prove to the examiner you can identify the differences and similarities between them in both theme and language. The following words will help you to do this:

Terms for Similarities			
the same as	similar to	this compares with	also
similarly	like	in the same way	just as
Terms for Differences			
whereas	but	on the other hand	however
more/fewer	differently	in contrast	nevertheless

Stone Cold, by Robert Swindells

CHARACTERS	
Link	Link/ Dave is the main character of the novel. He was born on March 20th 1977.
Ginger	A close friend and confidant of Link.
Carole	The sister of Dave (Link).
Vincent	He is the new boyfriend of Ms X (Dave's mother).
Shelter	Narrative crossover (ominous threat.)
Gail	A young lady who embarks upon a journey with Link.

CHAPTER SUMMARY	
1	Link, the novel's protagonist introduces himself to the reader as "one of the invisible people". The care or lack of it, that society affords the homeless, is an issue that will come to dominate the novel.
2	*During chapter 2, we are reminded of the harsh reality of life on the streets. Through Link, Swindells presents a very real account of the dangers many face.*
3	Link begins to feel increasingly depressed about his current situation Link returns to his sister's house for Christmas. His mother and sister buy him a sleeping bag as a gift.
4	Link travels back to London at this stage quite optimistic about life - his optimism is short - lived.
5	Shelter travels the streets of London. searching for "recruits" . At this stage we learn of his lack of remorse and sinister motives.

KEY QUOTES	
Link	"I was now one of them - poised at the top of that downward spiral".
Link	"I'm invisible, see? One of the invisible people. Right now I'm sitting in a doorway watching the passers - by. They're afraid i want something they've got, and they're right".
Shelter	"I never forget a face, and our next meeting will prove far more amusing for me than for them".
Link	"i was dead green you see? A babe in arms' .
Link	"You're going to find yourself living among hard, violent people, some of whom are deranged. You're going to be at risk every minute, day and night.. There's nowhere you can run to, because nobody cares".
Link	'We were a family you know - as happy as most, till Dad ran off with a receptionist in 1991, when I was fourteen".
Gail	"You've got it wrong, Link. i was researching homelessness, that's all. i knew nothing about this other business'.
Toya	"There's nothing you can do, Link. Guys like Ginger come and go".
Ginger	"No, you're right, mate. Just shove up a bit".

English - Stone Cold by Robert Swindells

THEMES & PURPOSE

Theme of Homelessness	Swindells is suggesting that we should not judge people who are homeless. He is trying to make us understand the difficulties they face and sympathise with them.
Justice	The concepts of social and personal justice are explored throughout the novel.
Injustice	The notion of injustice is explored throughout the novel. We are introduced to the plight of Link and his friends.
Vulnerability & Exposure	The theme of vulnerability is explored in great detail. We are exposed to the familiar plights faced by many people on a daily basis.
Prejudice	Swindell presents the theme of prejudice via his characters. We are given a detailed and convincing presentation of the realities of homelessness. As the reader, we are invited to challenge our own preconceptions.

USEFUL SENTENCE STARTERS

First impressions
Our first impressions of…

Character development
By the close of the play / novel / poem, the once ….. has developed into….

Deepening analysis
At first glance...;
however, on closer inspection...

Close language analysis
Here, _____employs the word/phrase '_____' to suggest / imply / reinforce...

Exemplifying an idea through a character / setting / event

_____ *reveals her / his belief in ___through her / his description of...*

METHODS

Foreshadowing - A warning or an indication of a future event in the story.

Natural Imagery - The novel is set during winter. This adds a sense of vulnerability & exposure to the narrative.

Imagery is a way of describing something symbolically, using words to create a picture in the reader's imagination. ... Images of this kind frequently concern qualities like beauty, speed, force, power and **natural** and animal traits.

Our Day Out, by Willy Russell

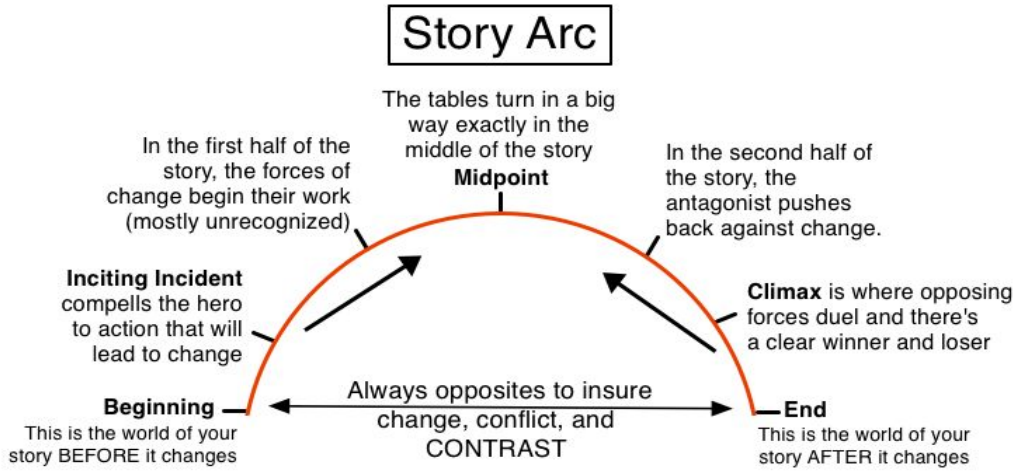
Characters	
Mrs Kay	The kind-hearted and generous teacher of the progress class.
Mr Briggs	Deputy Head of the school who believes in strict discipline.
Susan	A young teacher who is supporting on the trip.
Colin	A young teacher who is supporting on the trip.
Les	A grumpy bus driver who pre-judges the students.
Reilly	An older student who used to be in the progress class. A bad influence on the others.
Digga	An older student who used to be in the progress class. A bad influence on the others.
Carol	A thoughtful student who seems unhappy with her life in Liverpool.
Linda	A girl with a bad attitude. She has a crush on Colin, and clashes with Mr Briggs.
Andrews	A young student with a difficult home life.

	Context
Willy Russell	He was born in 1947 into a working class family near Liverpool. He left school at 15 without any academic qualifications. By the age of 20, he felt the need to return to education.
1970s in English	Economic decline in English meant that many people had little or no income, which divided the rich and poor. Lack of education and health care stopped people from getting good jobs which leads to social exclusion.
Liverpool	This area in the North of England was famous for its docks, a traditional source of employment. However, these became run down during this time and many people lost their jobs, which caused a lot of poverty. Crime levels rose and illegal drug use became more common.

Themes	Definitions
Social Class	This divides society into groups, depending on how much you earn.
Stereotyping	Making general comments about people and making assumptions based on their social group.
Prejudice	Behaving in an unkind way towards someone, based on a negative belief you have about them, purely for being part of a wider group.
Social Mobility	The idea that even if you were born into poverty, you can do whatever you want in the future, by being afforded the same opportunities.
Poverty	Living in conditions that are unsuitable due to lack of money.
Morality	Knowing between wrong and right and listening to your conscience.
Social Exclusion	The idea that certain people, usually those without a job are ignored by society and not treated properly.
Accent	The pronunciation of words which is exclusive to one region.
Dialect	The words that people use in a

Genre Writing and Conventions

Typical genres	Genre Conventions	Structural Features
Gothic Horror is a story about the supernatural and sometimes includes a romance. Usually, there is a damsel in distress who is attacked by a male predator, and often these stories have sexual undertones.	People and places are described in detail using adjectives, adverbs and verbs. Remember, you want your reader to imagine themselves there.	Introductions and openings - remember to hook the reader by creating mystery or by keeping information withheld. Set the scene using descriptive language.
Detective Fiction involve a crime story and usually the main character is the detective.	Encounters with the unfamiliar - the differences between home and the unknown are keenly shown.	Flashbacks are a nice way to show the reader what the character did in the past or where they came from. Show a change in time by changing the tense from present to past, or by using an organisational feature such as 'Three days before…'
Sci-Fi is the merging of Science and Fiction and is usually set in the future. This can include stories about a **utopian** society (when the world is perfect) or **dystopian**, when the world has gone wrong and usually society controls its people.	Finding yourself - sometimes journeys are rites of passage. In going to a new place, your character finds themselves.	**Discourse markers:** For sequencing: E.g. firstly, foremost, to begin For emphasis: E.g. above all, essentially, particularly. For contrast: E.g. Despite, alternatively, on the other hand, unless, otherwise.



Key Context

1818	Mary Shelley wrote Frankenstein considered the first Sci-Fi novel. Medical advances and the discovery of electricity were major influences.
1890s	Sci-Fi concepts such an aliens, spaceships and other worlds.
1948	George Orwell writes 1984 to show a dystopian future in a

Genre Writing and Conventions

Language techniques	Definition
Adjective	Descriptive word, applicable to a noun
Adverb	A word that describes a verb or action
Adventurous	Brave, outside of your comfort zone
Simile	Comparing two things using like or as
Metaphor	a direct comparison between two things by calling one thing something else
Juxtaposition	Two contrasting ideas/ things placed next to each other
Personification	Attributing human characteristics to inanimate objects
Simple sentence	a sentence with one main clause and no punctuation or connectives/conjunctions
Compound sentence	a sentence with one main clause which includes a connective or conjunction
Complex sentence	a sentence with two clauses (main and sub), separated by a comma
Structure	How a text is put together and the order of paragraphs
Exaggeration	To claim that something is bigger, smaller, better or worse that it actually is.
Sibilance	The use of the 's' to create a hissing sound
Alliteration	When the first sound at the beginning of the word is repeated to cleave (bind) words together

	Word Classes
Nouns	A thing, including abstract nouns that you can't see, such as love.
Adjectives	Describing word
Verbs	An action word
Adverbs	Describes a verbs and usually ends in 'ly'

	Grammar
Preposition	Tells you where something is E.g. below, under, whilst
Main Clause	'The girl approached the alien."
Subordinate Clause (in a complex sentence)	Adds information to the sentence. E.g. As the girl approached the alien, **she feared it.**"

Year 7 Knowledge Organiser – A Midsummer Night's Dream

Definition of Renaissance comedy: In most comedies, the happy ending involves a marriage or at least some kind of union or reunion that resolves the conflict and brings the characters into a state of harmony. **Renaissance comedies are not necessarily funny!**

Typical Features	Archetype Characters	Typical Settings
1. Disguise / mistaken identity	1. Lovers	➢ A Mediterranean setting
2. A happy ending	2. An outsider	➢ Pastoral / rural settings
3. Conflict which needs to be resolved	3. A fool(s)	➢ Elizabethan / Jacobean court (although disguised as something else)
4. Humour	4. High born characters (princes, kings etc)	➢ An unknown / mysterious setting
5. Confusion of order / chaos	5. A supernatural or non-human being	

Key Chronology

1590 – publication of Spenser's *Fairie Queene.*	1590 - Publication of Thomas Lodge's prose tale Rosalynde: Euphues Golden Legacie.		1592 – Outbreak of plague in London. Theatres closed.	1593 – Shakespeare begins writing his sonnet collection.	1593 – Witches or Warboys executed after being found guilty of witchcraft.	1594 Publication of Shakespeare narrative poem 'The Rape of Lucrece.'	1594 attempted assassination on Elizabeth I by Roderigo Lopez.	Mid 1590s – MSND is thought to be written.

Epilogue - A conclusion at the of the play	Mechanicals - actors in the play	Puns - Wordplay	Monologue - Speech to the audience	Allusion - an expression designed to call something to mind without mentioning it explicitly; an indirect or passing reference

Plot and Context	
• Renaissance drama commented on the fears and concerns of the time. • Women were not allowed to perform on Jacobean Stages – females would have been played by a young, pre-pubescent male • The Greek setting is a serious frame of reference, which the educated audience would immediately recognize. It also provides a warranty of seriousness and sets a distance from 16th century England: it enables Shakespeare to contemplate his society while distancing it in the past, which was important because playwrights were very dependent on sponsors and political power • The Fairies are part of the Elizabethan folk culture. Most people believed that they did exist (especially lower classes). As for their size, we tend to imagine small spirits; the problem is Titania's size: she is large enough to be able to hold Bottom in her arms. They have the power of curing most diseases using plants but occasionally they could also do harm	The **Duke of Athens** is getting married. Before the wedding he has to sort out an argument between a father and daughter. **Hermia** (the daughter) won't marry **Demetrius,** the man her father has chosen for her. She loves Lysander. Lysander and Hermia plan to elope (run away and get married) and they tell Hermia's friend Helena. **Helena** loves **Demetrius** but he is in love with **Hermia.** Meanwhile, **Oberon** - the King of Fairies - has quarrelled with his queen, **Titania**, over a servant of hers that he wants. Oberon sees Helena and Demetrius arguing and decided to help them. He asks his servant **Puck** to fetch a love potion and to put it into their sleeping eyes. The first thing they see when they wake they will fall in love with. When Lysander wakes he immediately falls in love with Helena and rejects Hermia. Helena gets angry as she thinks that Lysander is mocking her. Hermia gets angry as she used to have two men in love with her and now she only has one. Oberon sees an opportunity for further mischief. He gets Puck to bewitch one of the workers, **Nick Bottom** the weaver, giving him the head of a donkey! His friends run off and Bottom makes his way to where Titania is sleeping. Puck's dropped the love potion into her eyes and so, when she wakes, she falls hopelessly in love with the donkey-headed workman! Eventually, Puck manages to get his love potions right and Lysander and Hermia end up together, as so Helena and Demetrius. Oberon orders Puck to release Titania from her spell and to return Bottom's head to its usual shape.