

As teachers of English at Harrow High, we want our learners to be critical thinkers and readers who are equipped with the knowledge and skills with which to make their own choices and decisions throughout their lives and who are compassionate, conscientious and creative. We want our learners to be effective communicators and we believe that mastery of the written and spoken word is fundamental to ensuring our learners have every opportunity to succeed in life.

Subject: English Year 10 - English Literature GCSE (Edexcel) Conflict Poetry Anthology

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AO1 - Learners will be able to identify the theme and distinguish between themes; support a point of view by referring to evidence in the text; recognise the possibility of and evaluate different responses to a text, make an informed personal response that derives from analysis and evaluation of a whole text.

AO2 – Learners will be able to analyse and evaluate how language (including figurative language), structure, form and presentation contribute to quality and impact; use linguistic and literary terminology for such evaluation

AO3 - Learners will be able to use their understanding of writer's social, historical and cultural contexts to inform evaluation of the text. This includes the author's own life and situation, including the place and time of writing, only where these relate to the text, the historical setting, time and location of the text, social and cultural contexts, the literary context, the way in which texts are received and engaged with by different audiences, at different times.

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Reading
Learners will need to know:

- Concept of a poetry anthology
- Definition and various interpretations of conflict
- Social and historical contexts of each poem (including author's life, historical setting, social and cultural context, literary contexts and the way the texts are received by different readers, at different times)
- A range of subject terminology to identify language and structure (noun, verb, adverb, adjective, imagery, metaphor, simile, personification, oxymoron, juxtaposition)
- Specific poetic devices (rhyme, rhythm, enjambment, caesura)
- Human concepts, emotions and experiences (war, internal conflict, honour, glory, anger, doubt, morality, repressed emotions, revenge, betrayal, loss of innocence, racism, sexism, classism)

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Learners will draw and build on knowledge of studying poetry in both Year 7 and 8 to study the GCSE Conflict Poetry Anthology as part of their English Literature GCSE. This component of the GCSE course is arguably the most challenging but the learners arrive well prepared for an exploration of the language, structure and context of fifteen poems, having practiced these skills in various contexts throughout the Key Stages.

In this unit, learners will embark on a thorough exploration of some of English Literature's most well-known poems from the Romantic Poetry of William Blake to more contemporary poems written by John Agard and Benjamin Zephaniah exploring race and identity in modern Britain. As a department, we chose the Conflict Anthology as it is a theme the learners will have explored in depth, having studied 'Romeo and Juliet' and 'Journey's End' prior to this unit. This unit will provide an opportunity for close analysis of the language and structure of each poem and encourage learners to make links with the social and historical context and other poems in the anthology. The comparative element of this unit, albeit challenging, will provide the foundational skills for further study at A level, whereby learners will be expected to compare both the poetry of William Blake and unseen non-fiction extracts. The skills honed in this unit will also aid the development of skills for the unseen element of the Literature paper.

The Conflict Anthology, aside from providing the opportunity to explore some of the most famous poems in the English literary Canon, is a chance to explore a range of complex human experiences and emotions that remain relatable and relevant in our society today. Conflicts between family and friends, experiences of discrimination based on gender and race and the turmoil and suffering caused by war, remain compelling and important in our modern society. Many of the poems will expose learners to important moments in our human history, thus developing their understanding of how our world is

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| | shaped today whilst also providing a foundational knowledge for further study of subjects such as history, economics and politics. |
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