

# English Literature Paper 1 – Love Poetry Pre-1900



## Exam Information

Paper 1: Love through the Ages

Section C: Comparing texts: one question (from a choice of two) (25 marks)

You also do:

- *Taming of the Shrew*
- *Wuthering Heights*
- *Unseen Poetry Comparison on this paper*

Whole paper = 2hrs 30mins:

Comparative question 1 hour

The whole paper forms 40% of your entire English Literature A Level

It is an open book exam

## Golden Concepts

- Historicist reading
- Infidelity
- Idealised love
- Unattainable love
- Love and time
- Love and social class
- Lust
- Painful love
- Obsession
- Gender

## Timeline and historical contexts

### Renaissance, including 1558-1625 Elizabethan & Jacobean era

European cultural 'rebirth' following the Middle Ages with a surge of interest in Classical scholarship and values. Key elements included the discovery and exploration of new continents, the substitution of the Copernican for the Ptolemaic system of astronomy, the decline of the feudal system and the growth of commerce, and the invention or application paper, printing, the mariner's compass, and gunpowder. 1530-1540 – Petrarchan sonnet arrives in England

### 1570s-1630s Metaphysical poets

Personal and intellectual complexity and concentration that includes a blend of emotion and intellectual ingenuity, characterized by conceit or "wit"—the sometimes violent yoking together of apparently unconnected ideas and things so that the reader is startled out of his complacency and forced to think through the argument of the poem.

### 1642–51 English Civil Wars

### 1660 onwards - the Restoration

After 19 years of exile, Charles II took the throne and the monarchy was restored. Historian Roger Baker argues it was, "as though the pendulum [of England's morality] swung from repression to licence more or less overnight." The Cavalier poets, the rakes, and court life were more permissive, lively and free, with a strong literary culture.

### 1800-1850 - Romanticism

A rejection of the precepts of order, calm, harmony, balance, idealization, and rationality. Romanticism emphasized the individual, the subjective, the irrational, the imaginative, the personal, the spontaneous, the emotional, the visionary, and the transcendental.

### 1837- 1910 – Victorian Era

Characterized by a class-based society, a growing number of people able to vote, a growing state and economy, and Britain's status as the most powerful empire in the world. Today "Victorian" connotes a prudish refusal to admit the existence of sex, hypocritically combined with constant discussions of sex, thinly veiled as a series of warnings. Moral panic over prostitution reached a height in the 1850s-1860s. The Decadent Movement emerged in the 1890s, promoting self-indulgence and rebelliousness, which contrasted with the general Victorian view of literature as "improving" society, or promoting morality.

## Thinking Tools

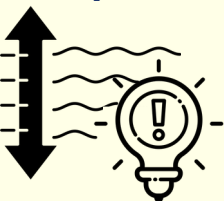
### Precision



### Abstraction



### Depth



### Breadth



### Techniques:

Image Simile Metaphor  
 Symbol Conceit  
 Personification  
 Pathetic fallacy  
 Alliteration Sibilance  
 Rhyme Onomatopoeia  
 Rhythm Pace  
 Plosive consonants  
 End-stopped lines  
 Caesura  
 Enjambment  
 Stanza length  
 Sound repetition  
 Meter/ regularity  
 Natural imagery  
 Pastoral imagery  
 Celestial imagery

## Golden Quotations

<b>Whoso list to Hunt</b>	<b>Sir Thomas Wyatt</b>	Who list her hunt, I put him out of doubt, As well as I, may spend his time in vain	'Noli me tangere, for Caesar's I am, And wild for to hold, though I seem tame
<b>Sonnet 116</b>	<b>William Shakespeare</b>	It is the star to every wandering bark, Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.	Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks, But bears it out even to the edge of doom.
<b>The Flea</b>	<b>John Donne</b>	This flea is you and I, and this Our marriage bed, and marriage temple is.	Just so much honour, when thou yield'st to me, Will waste, as this flea's death took life from thee.
<b>To His Coy Mistress</b>	<b>Andrew Marvell</b>	But at my back I always hear Time's winged chariot hurrying near;	And tear our pleasures with rough strife Thorough the iron gates of life.
<b>The Scrutiny</b>	<b>Richard Lovelace</b>	And 'twas last night I swore to thee That fond impossibility	With spoils of meaner beauties crowned I laden will return to thee,
<b>Absent from Thee</b>	<b>John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester</b>	When, wearied with a world of woe, To thy safe bosom I retire,	Faithless to thee, false, unforgiven, And lose my everlasting rest.
<b>The Garden of Love</b>	<b>William Blake</b>	So I turned to the Garden of Love, That so many sweet flowers bore;	And Priests in black gowns were walking their rounds, And binding with briars my joys and desires.
<b>Ae Fond Kiss</b>	<b>Robert Burns</b>	Who shall say that Fortune grieves him, While the star of hope she leaves him?	Deep in heart-wrung tears I'll pledge thee, Warring sighs and groans I'll wage thee
<b>She Walks in Beauty</b>	<b>Lord Byron</b>	SHE walks in beauty, like the night Of cloudless climes and starry skies;	A mind at peace with all below, A heart whose love is innocent!
<b>Remember</b>	<b>Christina Rossetti</b>	When you can no more hold me by the hand, Nor I half turn to go yet turning stay.	Better by far you should forget and smile Than that you should remember and be sad.
<b>The Ruined Maid</b>	<b>Thomas Hardy</b>	And whence such fair garments, such prosperi-ty?"– "O didn't you know I'd been ruined?" said she.	"My dear -- a raw country girl, such as you be, Cannot quite expect that. You ain't ruined," said she.
<b>At an Inn</b>	<b>Thomas Hardy</b>	Veiled smiles bespoke their thought / Of what we were.	And now we seem not what We aching are. O severing sea and land, O laws of men
<b>La Belle Dame sans Merci. A Ballad</b>	<b>John Keats</b>	Her hair was long, her foot was light, And her eyes were wild.	And there I shut her wild wild eyes With kisses four.
<b>Non sum qualis eram bonae sub regno Cynarae</b>	<b>Ernest Dowson</b>	Then falls thy shadow, Cynara! the night is thine; And I am desolate and sick of an old passion,	Yea, hungry for the lips of my desire: I have been faithful to thee, Cynara! in my fashion