**Anne Hathaway**  
by Carol Ann Duffy from *The World's Wife*

*'Item I gyve unto my wife my second best bed ...'*(from Shakespeare's will)

1 The bed we loved in was a spinning world

of forests, castles, torchlight, clifftops, seas

where we would dive for pearls. My lover's words

were shooting stars which fell to earth as kisses

5 on these lips; my body now a softer rhyme

to his, now echo, assonance; his touch

a verb dancing in the centre of a noun.

Some nights, I dreamed he'd written me, the bed

a page beneath his writer's hands. Romance

10 and drama played by touch, by scent, by taste.

In the other bed, the best, our guests dozed on,

dribbling their prose. My living laughing love –

I hold him in the casket of my widow's head

as he held me upon that next best bed.

1. The main theme of the poem is introduced in the title and the first 5 lines. Identify one main theme and show how poetic technique is used to introduce this theme. 3
2. By referring closely to lines 3 – 10 analyse the use of poetic technique to emphasise the passion in their relationship. 2
3. Explain what Anne Hathaway means when she states that 2

‘*I dreamed he'd written me, the bed  
a page beneath his writer's hands’*

1. How effective you find lines 13-14 as a conclusion to the poem? 3
2. Discuss how Carol Ann Duffy uses a persona in this poem and at least one other to highlight the poems’ main concern. 10

20 marks