**Background to Poem**

**Your Favourite Season**

What is your favourite season? Give three reasons why this season is your favourite.

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**Different Seasons, Different Feelings**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Spring** | **Summer** |
| **Autumn** | **Winter** |

**Seasons and Symbolism**

Spring:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Summer:

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Autumn:

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Winter:

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**What winter represents**

Consider the films/TV shows set in winter. Why have they been set at this time of year? Choose one of the examples and explain why.

Chosen film/TV programme:

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Why winter?

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**Winter Symbolism**

In literature, film and popular culture, winter is often used to represent:













**Learning Review**

Do you agree with this slightly negative view of winter? Why/why not?

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**‘Winter’-Edwin Morgan**

The year goes, the woods decay, and after,

many a summer dies. The swan

on Bingham’s pond, a ghost, comes and goes.

It goes, and ice appears, it holds,

bears gulls that stand around surprised,

blinking in the heavy light, bears boys

when skates take over swan-tracks gone.

After many summer dyes, the swan-white ice

glints only crystal beyond white. Even

dearest blue’s not there, though poets would find it.

I find one stark scene

cut by evening cries, by warring air.

The muffled hiss of blades escapes into breath,

hangs with it a moment, fades off.

Fades off, goes, the scene, the voices fade,

the line of trees, the woods that fall, decay

and break, the dark comes down, the shouts

run off into it and disappear.

At last the lamps go too, when fog

drives monstrous down the dual carriageway

out to the west, and even in my room

and on this paper I do not know

about that grey dead pane

of ice that sees nothing and that nothing sees.

**Understanding the Poem**

**Morgan’s Winter**

Morgan’s overall view of winter is that it is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ season.

Create a Wordle based on the words in the poem representing the kind of season it is.

In a Wordle, the most frequently used/most important words are larger.

**Example-Frozen ‘In Summer’**



**Winter Wordle**

**Winter**

**Understanding the Poem**

1. What common symbolic meaning of winter is introduced within the first lines of the poem? What words help you understand this?

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1. What kind of mood is suggested in the image of the swan in lines 2-3? What technique is this?

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1. How does Morgan create a contrasting joyful image in lines 6-7?

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1. In lines 8-10, Morgan writes about the changing colours of the ice and states “. Even/dearest blue’s not there, though poets would find it.” What does he mean by this? Consider the symbolism behind the colour blue.

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1. In lines 11-13, how does Morgan create a harsh image of winter? Pick out key words used.

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1. How does Morgan create an eerie scene in lines 15-18?

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1. How does Morgan demonstrate the power of nature in the final section of the poem? Identify a technique used here.

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1. The final image in the poem is quite haunting. What technique is used here, and what does it suggest about winter?

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1. What is the speaker doing in this poem? How do you know this?

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**Learning Review**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: when a writer looks back on key events for deeper meaning.

**Annotating the Poem**

**Paired Annotation**

With your partner, carefully reread the poem, annotating where you see important words/techniques being used.

* Highlight important words used
* Underline poetic techniques used
* Add comments explaining important features

You should have a good understand of the annotating process now, after our group discussions.

Use your poetic techniques cheat sheet to help you spot key techniques.

**Reminder-Annotation Example**

Suggests slow process of death; rotting

Idea of time passing, winter as a time of old age

The year goes, the woods decay, and after,

Personification-seasons dying adds drama; idea of winter as a symbol of death

many a summer dies.

**Creating Setting**

**Creating a Vivid Setting**

We already know that Morgan creates very interesting and vivid characters in his poems.

He also creates very vivid impressions of settings and scenes in his poetry

Poets often use **sensory description** to create vivid settings

What do we mean by sensory description?

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Sensory description explores:



















**Creating Setting in ‘Winter’**

Briefly scan the poem again. What three senses does Morgan use most frequently to create a vivid impression of setting?



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Sense** | **Evidence** | **Analysis** |
| Sight |  |  |
|  |  |
| Sound |  |  |
|  |  |
| Touch |  |  |
|  |  |

**Themes in ‘Winter’**

**What’s the message?**

What do you think Morgan is trying to say about winter in this poem?

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What is the mood in this poem?

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**Exploring theme-creating PowerPoints**

In your groups, you will create a PowerPoint based on one of the themes in ‘Winter’

In your PowerPoint, you will include:

* A definition of what the theme means
* 2-3 key quotations which demonstrate this theme
* Analysis of each quotation, explaining:
  + Techniques used
  + Links to theme
* A conclusion about the poet’s overall message

**Notes on Themes in ‘Winter’**

|  |
| --- |
| **Theme:** |
| Theme definition: |
| Key Quotations:  Quotation 1  Analysis  Quotation 2  Analysis |
| Overall message: |
| **Theme:** |
| Theme definition: |
| Key Quotations:  Quotation 1  Analysis  Quotation 2  Analysis |
| Overall message: |

|  |
| --- |
| **Theme:** |
| Theme definition: |
| Key Quotations:  Quotation 1  Analysis  Quotation 2  Analysis |
| Overall message: |