

# English Literature

Unseen Poetry

## Unseen poetry – reading strategies

Your first reading should be focused on the 'meaning' of the poem.

1. Look at the question this will tell you what the poem is about.
2. Look at the title this will help you to interpret meaning.
3. When reading the poem focus on what you think their 'view' is on the subject.
4. Make it simple- do they have a positive or negative view of the topic?
5. Then you find evidence- how do you know they feel this way?
6. Look at the poem, does the structure reveal anything to you?
7. Look at the first and last lines of the poem- is there a change?
8. Find any interesting language techniques that have been used and annotate them on the poem.
9. Can you see enjambment, caesura? If so- where is it and WHY do you think they have used it? What does it tell you about the speakers' feelings.
10. Pick out interesting quotations and annotate on the sheet what you are going to say about them.



