

Mini Context for @AQA Power and Conflict Poetry Anthology

<p><u>Ozymandias</u> Arrogance of rulers Egyptian ruler Shelley a rebel Rameses III</p>	<p><u>London</u> Victorian London Religious cynic Romantic Poet Social concept addressed</p>	<p><u>Excerpt from the Prelude</u> Lake District Semi-autobiographical Romanticism Power of Nature</p>	<p><u>My Last Duchess</u> Art connections – Aristocracy The Duke of Ferrara – old money (arrogance of wealth handed down over time)</p>	<p><u>The Charge of the Light Brigade</u> Biblical Reference “though I walk through the valley of death” British Army The battle of Balaclava – miscommunication Massacre</p>
<p><u>Storm on the Island</u> Irish Landscape Heaney’s home Knowledge of weather protection</p>	<p><u>Bayonet Charge</u> Hughes didn’t experience war Inspired by Wilfred Owen Emotions of soldiers in warfare</p>	<p><u>Remains</u> From the 2008 collection – The Not Dead Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Made into a Channel 4 programme Highlights suffering</p>	<p><u>Poppies</u> Symbol of war Badge of remembrance Church services Honours the dead Painful emotions Mother/Son relationships</p>	<p><u>War Photographer</u> Living history Emotional impact/trauma Impotence/self-doubt Horror of the experiences</p>
<p><u>Exposure</u> Invisible killer Insufficient clothing Trench Warfare Owen experienced war, injured & sent home, returned to front line, died in final days of the war</p>	<p><u>Tissue</u> Religious significance – The Quran Dharker is Glaswegian Humanity is questioned Record Keeping across the centuries The multiple interpretations and uses of Tissue</p>	<p><u>Emigree</u> Civil War/War torn countries Citizen vs the State Displacement of citizens Immigration policy Global Issue Written in the 90’s -still pertinent today</p>	<p><u>Kamikazee</u> Fighter pilot – on a suicide mission Japanese honour Family disowning Dishonouring the family The importance of memories</p>	<p><u>Checking out me History</u> Juxtaposition of nursery rhymes (stereotypical white history) Vs characters in history who deserved to be written about (black history) Patois</p>

POTENTIAL QUESTION FOCUS: power of time, power of nature, power of weather, power of people, conflict, internal conflict, physical conflict, emotional conflict...

Mini Summary & 3 key quotations for the AQA Power and Conflict Poetry Anthology

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ozymandias</u></p> <p>A statue built to celebrate the ruler Ozymandias lies broken and destroyed showing time and nature is more powerful than man's hubris.</p> <p>'Two vast and trunkless legs of stone' 'My name is Ozymandias King of Kings' 'The lone and level sands stretch far away.'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>London</u></p> <p>The persona walks the streets of London reflecting on the poverty and pain and suffering evident in every person he meets. He recognises the society is at fault.</p> <p>'In every cry of every man' 'mind-forg'd manacles i hear' 'blights with plagues the marriage hearse'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Excerpt from the Prelude</u></p> <p>The persona steals a boat, rows calmly on the lake. He is scared by the vastness of the mountain range and nature, rows back, returns the boat and sinks into a state of depression.</p> <p>'it was an act of stealth and troubled pleasure,' 'a huge peak, black and huge' 'There hung a darkness, call it solitude...'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>My Last Duchess</u></p> <p>The Duke of Ferrara speaks to a messenger about his dead wife. He possessively shows her portrait, confesses to murdering her and acts as if she was his possession like his art collection.</p> <p>'(since none puts by the curtain I have drawn for you, but I) 'My gift of a nine hundred year name' 'I gave commands; then all smiles stopped together.'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>The Charge of the Light Brigade</u></p> <p>A cavalry of six hundred soldiers charge into battle in a valley surrounded by cannons. An officer made a mistake and they shouldn't have made the charge. Most died and were brave and honourable.</p> <p>'Into the valley of death Rode the six hundred' 'Someone had blunder'd' 'Honour the Light Brigade, noble six hundred!'</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Storm on the Island</u></p> <p>The Irish community come together to sit and wait out a storm. They are prepared as they have experienced this before and they wait patiently showing the stoic nature of the people.</p> <p>'We build our houses squat, we are prepared.' 'spits like a tame cat' 'it is a huge nothing we fear.'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Bayonet Charge</u></p> <p>A soldier literally or metaphorically wakes up in the middle of charging towards the enemy with a bayonet. He is scared and has lost faith in war.</p> <p>'Suddenly, he was awake and running' 'In what cold clockwork of the stars and nations was he the hand pointing that second?' 'King, honour, human dignity etcetera'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Remains</u></p> <p>Soldiers on patrol shoot at a looter while peace-keeping, one soldier reflects on the PTSD and guilt he suffers as a result of the casual death suffered by the looter.</p> <p>'probably armed, possibly not' 'tosses his guts back into his body' 'the drink and drugs won't flush him out'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Poppies</u></p> <p>A mother reflects on memories of her son leaving and possibly going to war and never coming back. She is thinking about him around the time of Armistice Sunday and uses lots of tactile imagery to think about him.</p> <p>'Three days before Armistice Sunday' 'I resisted the impulse to run my fingers' 'your playground voice catching in the wind.'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>War Photographer</u></p> <p>A war photographer is developing pictures in his darkroom. He remembers the suffering as the images develop and thinks ordinary people will glance at the pictures and get on with their daily life.</p> <p>'spools of suffering set out in ordered rows' 'of running children in a nightmare heat' 'from which his editor will pick out five or six'</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Exposure</u></p> <p>The soldiers are enduring terrible cold conditions and endless waiting which seems worse than the war itself.</p> <p>'the merciless iced East winds knife us' 'But nothing happens' 'All their eyes are ice'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Tissue</u></p> <p>The poem reflects on the transience of life and humanity and uses the extended metaphor of Tissue to reflect on how we record everything but nothing lasts.</p> <p>'Paper that lets the light shine through' 'Maps too, the sun shines through their borderlines' 'Turned into your skin'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Emigree</u></p> <p>The persona reflects on being displaced from your own country and how this makes you feel as though part of your identity is lost. She can't return as it is no longer safe for her.</p> <p>'but my memory of it is sunlight clear' 'be a lie, banned by the state' 'and my shadow falls as evidence of sunlight'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Kamikaze</u></p> <p>A Japanese suicide pilot changes his mind half way through his mission and returns to his family. He is then shunned and ostracised. Nature and memories made him change his mind.</p> <p>'one way flight into history' 'little boats strung out like bunting' 'he must have wondered which had been the better way to die.'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Checking out me History</u></p> <p>The persona reflects on his British colonial education and how this white washed his own history. He juxtaposes pointless tales he learnt with stories of strong figures from his own culture as a way of searching for his own identity.</p> <p>'bandage up my identity' 'Toussaint a slave with vision' 'I carving out my identity'</p>

