

ILT due on Tuesday 14th March

- How does Heaney present nature in the poem 'The Death of a Naturalist?'

In my opinion, at first in this poem Heaney presents nature as..... but later in the poem he presents nature as....

In stanza 1 the narrator describes the flax dam.

PEE x 2/2 ideas with ladder analysis

In stanza 2 the description of the flax dam changes dramatically.

PEE x2/2 ideas with ladder analysis

In conclusion, in this narrative, autobiographical poem, Heaney tells us...

Anthology Poem Response – Success Criteria (Band 5)

- Key words the examiners say about the response of this quality are: sensitive, evaluative, original, perceptive
- Sustain focus on the task
- Include an overview
- Covey all ideas clearly/coherantly
- Analyse the text critically
- Include pertinent, direct references from across the text
- Include short, embedded quotations

- Analyse and appreciate use of language, form and structure
- Explore the way meanings are conveyed through language, form and structure
- Use precise subject terminology

- Assured understanding between the text and the context in which it was written (including literary tradition)

Anthology Poem Response – Success Criteria (Band 3)

- Focus on the task
 - Include an overview
 - Covey ideas clearly
 - Show understanding of key aspects of the text
 - Include direct references from the text/paraphrase to back up your ideas
 - Include quotes
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- Comment on the writer's choice of language, form and structure
 - Use relevant subject terminology
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- Show understanding of context

Poetry 9 – Mametz Wood

Mametz Wood

By Owen Sheers

LO – you will be able to comment on
the themes and ideas in the poem

What happened at Mametz Wood?

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R2fIC4kz7bE>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tGyAueDcupM> (sound not great on this one. Be prepared)

Mametz Wood

- *Mametz Wood* was the scene of fierce fighting during the Battle of the Somme, one of the bloodiest battles of the First World War. Soldiers of the Welsh division were ordered to take *Mametz Wood*, the largest area of trees on the battlefield. The generals thought this would take a few hours. It ended up lasting five days with soldiers fighting face-to-face with the enemy. There were 4,000 casualties, with 600 dead. The Welsh succeeded but their bravery and sacrifice was never really acknowledged.

What inspired Owen Sheers to write this poem?

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O6D8CEtUxfE>

The history and identity of Wales has formed a large part of his development as a poet and writer. It is people, their lives and their families that provide most of the focus for his work, though, especially the difficulties people face in simply trying to live.

Understanding 'Mametz Wood'

1. 'For years afterwards the farmers found them – the wasted young, turning up under their plough blades'
2. 'across this field where they were told to walk, not run,
towards the wood and its nesting machine guns.'
3. 'earth stands [sentinel](#),
reaching back into itself for reminders of what happened'
4. 'This morning, twenty men buried in one long grave,'

What are Owen Sheer's thoughts and feelings about the events of the poem and the men who died?

What is your interpretation of the following quotes?

1. 'wasted young'
2. 'the blown
and broken bird's egg of a skull'
3. 'where they were told to walk, not run,
towards the wood and its nesting machine guns.'
4. 'for reminders of what happened
like a wound working a foreign body to the surface of
the skin.'
5. 'in boots that outlasted them'

What does Owen Sheers do for these men in this poem?

Attitudes, themes and ideas

Sheers reflects on how the events of that week in 1916 have been buried and forgotten. The bits of bone that are turned up seem just the same as old bits of china – curious relics of history. The violence of the day, the shattering of the bones by gunfire and mortar shell is merely "mimicked" by the flint. Their skeletons even look almost comic.

Sheers could have simply retold the historical events of the battle. By approaching the subject in this slightly strange way, though, Sheers highlights the injustice of history. The poem therefore is about offering some kind of justice or redemption for the dead – and to the land that has held them. By being 'unearthed' the bones have not just literally come free of the ground, they have in some way become themselves again. They have become part of a poem that gives them a voice they have lacked all these years.

In Sheers' work, the three elements have become reconciled: the earth is free of the bones and the bones have become the people they once were. He writes it like a hymn to their memory – but a hymn they sing themselves.