Summer | English | Animal Poetry

To The Sea by Philip Larkin

- In the poem, Larkin wistfully describes the seaside and everything he witnesses in that moment including the crowds, the pebbles and the white steamer.
- Larkin uses different colour connotations such as the adjectives "yellow" and "white" to create a calming, warm feeling in his poem.

The Sandpiper by Frances Frost

- · The poet describes a sandpiper bird racing through the ocean.
- The poet makes use of the metaphor of a toothpick. By comparing the bird's legs to this small, fragile object, the bird itself seems small and fragile.

The Squirrel (Anonymous)

- The poem follows a squirrel's journey as he scavenges for food and then returns to his tree.
- The poet particularly focuses on sound imagery and onomatopoeia to evoke a lively and energetic picture of the squirrel.

Hawk Roosting by Ted Hughes

- The poem describes the hawk in a position of power and authority, looking down on those beneath it. The hawk is shown as a natural hunting predator.
- Ted Hughes makes use of enjambment in order to speed up certain parts of his poem, and caesura to slow other parts down.

Vultures by Chinua Achebe

- The poems describes the actions of vultures birds of prey and their grim life.
- Chinua Achebe extends the metaphor of concentration camp guards as vultures across the whole poem.

Hyena by Edward Morgan

- In the poem, we hear from a hyena who describes their appearance, the environment they live in, and way they patiently stalk their next meal
- Edwin Morgan chooses a first-person perspective for the narrative in his poem, in order to allow the readers to see exactly what these animals think and feel.



















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Poem	A piece of writing in which the words are chosen for their beauty and sound.
Poet	The writer of a poem.
Speaker	Sometimes a poem isn't about the poet; a speaker is used instead.
Line	Instead of describing a list of words as a sentence, we call them lines, in poetry.
Stanza	A group of lines in a poem.
Connotation	An idea or feeling that a word invokes, in addition to its literal meaning.
Imagery	When a poet uses visually descriptive words to create a clear picture of something in our minds.
Attributive adjectives	These adjectives usually appear in front of the noun that they are describing.

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Synonym	A word that means exactly or nearly the same as another word.
Antonym	Words that are opposite in meaning e.g. 'hot' and 'cold'.
Simile	Where you make a comparison using the words, 'like' or 'as'. 'Her hair was as golden as the sun.'
Metaphor	Where you make a comparison without using the words, 'like' or 'as'. 'Her hair was a golden sun.'
Assonance	This is when a vowel sound is repeated within words, placed close together in a sentence or line.
Onomatopoeia	This is where a word reflects the sound it makes, like, 'bang', 'hiss' and 'smacked'.

Enjambment Caesura	Where an idea in a line continues onto the line below without pause A pause near the middle of a line of poetry, shown by punctuation.
Extended metaphor	A metaphor that is developed in great detail. The amount of detail can vary from that of a sentence or a paragraph, to encompassing an entire work.
Narrative voice	The perspective a story or poem is told from.
First person narrative	Told from a first-person point of view (using 'l').
Third person narrative	Told from someone else's point of view (using 'he', 'she', 'they' or 'it').





