

ENGLISH 2201

POETRY UNIT WORKBOOK

"POETRY IS WHEN THE EMOTION HAS FOUND ITS THOUGHT
AND THE THOUGHT HAS FOUND WORDS." - ROBERT FROST

NAME: _____

TEACHER: _____

DATE SUBMITTED: _____

POEM	SELECTED RESPONSES	CONSTRUCTED RESPONSES	TOTAL
#1 - WE REAL COOL	N/A	3@6	18
#2 - THE MINERS	8@1	2@6	120
#3 - NO MAN IS AN ISLAND	N/A	1@6	16
#4 - I AM A ROCK	4@1	2@6	16
#5 - THE LOGICAL SONG	7@1	2@6	19
#6 - STUDENT SELECTION	N/A	1@6	16

TOTAL:

/85

Poem #1

We Real Cool

By: Gwendolyn Brooks

THE POOL PLAYERS.
SEVEN AT THE GOLDEN SHOVEL.

We real cool. We
Left school. We

Lurk late. We
Strike straight. We

Sing sin. We
Thin gin. We

Jazz June. We
Die soon.

1. Explain how Brooks conveys her theme through her use of verbal irony.

2. Using 2 specific references, explain how Brooks' language style is used effectively.

3. Explain how enjambment and rhyme are used to convey the mood of the poem.

Poem #2

The Miners
by Michael Crummey

1 When they were forced to leave off fishing
they left everything they knew
strode tall and awkwardly young
into a mining town
5 green as the green salt water
they'd walked away from and started digging,
spacing zinc and iron ore
and a little copper and gold
out of the earth's ocean,
10 coming up for air after
a ten-hour shift like whales
surfacing into light,
blowing dust out of their nostrils,
spitting out tiny shards of rock
15 Some of them lived in the darkness and damp
of the earth for forty-odd years
but never learned to love it,
never accepted it as theirs and welcome;
they'd seen enough friends swept under
20 a sudden flow of stone to fear for themselves,
waited uncomfortably for it each day
like a bill they half-expected in the mail
The fishing they remembered as something
like perfect freedom –
25 A man can bargain with the sea, they'd say
believe in it,
a cost-net is an honest prayer
a statement of faith you live by:
but they never understood the earth
30 or its ruthlessness
and never forgave it either
Even after the mine closed down
it stayed with them
this anger, the fear–
35 The earth collects on all its debts
they'd say, and resigned themselves to that;
sooner or later, the earth collects

1. What is the form of this poem?
 - a. Elegy
 - b. Free verse
 - c. Narrative
 - d. Sonnet

2. What word best describes the mood of the final stanza?
 - a. Acceptance
 - b. Comfort
 - c. Disappointment
 - d. Dread

3. What is the point of view of this poem?
 - a. First Person
 - b. Second Person
 - c. Third Person Limited
 - d. Third Person Omniscient

4. The phrase “...*coming up for air after a ten hour shift like whales...*” uses what literary device?
 - a. Apostrophe
 - b. Metaphor
 - c. Personification
 - d. Simile

5. Which literary device is used in line 15 of the poem?
 - a. Alliteration
 - b. Cacophony
 - c. Hyperbole
 - d. Oxymoron

6. What is “it” in line 21, “..*waited uncomfortable for it each day...*”?
 - a. A Bill
 - b. Darkness
 - c. Death
 - d. Love

7. What literary device is used in the phrase “*a cast-net is an honest prayer*” in line 27?
- a. Consonance
 - b. Euphony
 - c. Metaphor
 - d. Personification

8. What is the miner’s attitude about their situation?
- a. Defiant
 - b. Hopeful
 - c. Proud
 - d. Resentful

9. What is an appropriate theme for the poem? Support your answer with two examples from the poem.

10. What is the tone of the poem? Use two examples from the poem to support your answer?

Poem #3

No Man is an Island

by John Donne

No man is an island entire of itself;
every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main;
if a clod be washed away by the sea,
Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were,
as well as any manner of thy friends or of thine own were;
any man's death diminishes me,
because I am involved in mankind.
And therefore never send to know for whom
the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.

1. Choose a single phrase or line from Donne's poem which you feel to be the most profound. What is it about the phrase or line that strikes you?

Poem #4

I Am a Rock

by Paul Simon

1. A winter's day
 In a deep and dark December;
 I am alone,
5. Gazing from my window to the streets below
 On a freshly fallen silent shroud of snow.
 I am a rock,
 I am an island.
- I've built walls,
 A fortress deep and mighty,
10. That none may penetrate.
 I have no need of friendship; friendship causes pain.
 It's laughter and it's loving I disdain.
 I am a rock,
 I am an island.
15. Don't talk of love,
 But I've heard the words before;
 It's sleeping in my memory.
 I won't disturb the slumber of feelings that have died.
 If I never loved I never would have cried.
20. I am a rock,
 I am an island.
- I have my books
 And my poetry to protect me;
 I am shielded in my armor,
25. Hiding in my room, safe within my womb.
 I touch no one and no one touches me.
 I am a rock,
 I am an island.
- And a rock feels no pain;
 And an island never cries.

1. What poetic form is used here?

- (A) Ballad
- (B) Elegy
- (C) Lyric
- (D) Romanticism

2. What poetic device is used in line 18?

- (A) Assonance
- (B) Hyperbole
- (C) Personification
- (D) Understatement

3. What poetic device is used in line 5?

- (A) Euphony
- (B) Hyperbole
- (C) Onomatopoeia
- (D) Paradox

4. What device is used with "I am a rock. I am an island"?

- (A) Alliteration
- (B) Consonance
- (C) Parallelism
- (D) Understatement

5. With reference to two specific examples, explain how figurative language is used effectively.

6. Compare and contrast this poem with John Donne's *No Man is an Island*.

Poem #5

The Logical Song

By: Supertramp

1. When I was young, it seemed that life was so wonderful
2. A miracle, oh it was beautiful, magical
3. And all the birds in the trees, well they'd be singing so happily
4. Oh joyfully, playfully watching me.
5. But then they sent me away to teach me how to be sensible, logical, responsible, practical
6. And they showed me a world where I could be so dependable, clinical, intellectual, cynical
7. There are times when all the world's asleep
8. The questions run too deep
9. For such a simple man

10. Won't you please, please tell me what we've learned
11. I know it sounds absurd
12. Please tell me who I am

13. Now, watch what you say or they'll be calling you a radical, liberal, fanatical, criminal
14. Won't you sign up your name, we'd like to feel you're acceptable, respectable, presentable, a vegetable!

15. But at night, when all the world's asleep
16. The questions run so deep
17. For such a simple man
18. Won't you please, please tell me what we've learned
19. I know it sounds absurd
20. Please tell me who I am.

1. What is the language style used in the poem?

- (A) Colloquial
- (B) Formal
- (C) Informal
- (D) Jargon

2. What is the poetic form?

- (A) Ballad
- (B) Lyric
- (C) Sonnet
- (D) Villanelle

3. What device is used in line 5, "Sensible, logical, responsible, practical" ?

- (A) Alliteration
- (B) Consonance
- (C) Hyperbole
- (D) Oxymoron

4. What device is used in lines 8 and 16, "The questions run too/so deep"?

- (A) Assonance
- (B) Euphony
- (C) Metaphor
- (D) Personification

5. Within the context of the poem, what is the denotation of the word, "vegetable" (line 14)?

- (A) A person with a dull or inactive life
- (B) A plant or part of a plant used as food
- (C) Creative
- (D) Distrustful

6. What is the predominant device used in lines 5 -6?

- (A) Allusion
- (B) Cacophony
- (C) Onomatopoeia
- (D) Parallelism

7. What is the effectiveness of the repetition of the word, "please" in lines 10 and 18?

- (A) To convey mood
- (B) To emphasize tone
- (C) To enable assonance
- (D) To make the poem more memorable

8. Explain the significance of the final line of the poem, "Please tell me who I am".

9. Using 2 specific references, explain how diction is used to develop the mood of the poem.

Poem #6

Student Choice

Choose your favorite work of poetry (one that we have not covered in class). Attach a copy. Answer the following:

1. Explain how any 2 poetic devices are used to evoke a particular mood.
