

**GUIDE FOR THE YEARLY EXAM  
6TH GRADE  
BRITISH LITERATURE**

**Miss Grace Martínez Celis G.**

**1. When I Have Fears That I May Cease to Be. John Keats**

Lyric Poetry

Speaker's fears when dying (ceasing to be)

Sound Devices: **alliteration, assonance and consonance**

Meter and Rhyme

**2. Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night. Dylan Thomas**

**Villanelle:** characteristics.

Theme in the poem: struggle against death; to struggle to stay alive.

Analyze content.

Sound Devices

**Refrain**

Rhyme scheme

**3. In Memoriam. Alfred Lord Tennyson**

**Elegy**

Lyric poetry

Victorian Poetry

Realism. Naturalism

**Paradox**

**4. Sonnets**

**Shakespeare: Sonnet 130**

Contrasting image of the beloved and an idealized woman

**Spenser: Sonnet 75**

Transcendence of his love: through his poetry

Alliteration: find examples

**Petrarch: Sonnet 292**

Lost love

**Review the following:**

Amoretti: sonnet sequence

Astrophel and Stella: sonnet sequence

abab/cdcd/efef/gg: Shakespearean Sonnet

abab/bcbc/cdcd/ee: Spenserian Sonnet

abba/abba/cde/cde: Petrarchan Sonnet

## 5. Digging. Seamus Heaney

Analyze content about the memories in the past.

Significance of "...the twenty years away"

Analyze **imagery**

Review sound devices: alliteration, repetition, consonance, assonance

## 6. Holy Sonnet 10. John Donne

### Metaphysical Poetry

Theme in the poem: there is no such thing as death.

**Paradox**: examples in the poem: "die not poor death"

**Conceit**: comparison of two dissimilar things.

Identify examples in the exam.

## 7. To His Coy Mistress. Andrew Marvell

Cavalier Poetry

Carpe Diem

Identify **hyperbole and allusions**

## 8. Study:

**Elegy**: meditative poem

**Metaphysical Poetry**: approach to subjects such as religion and death

**Cavalier Poetry**: Carpe Diem (seize the day)

**Lyric Poetry**: short poems that convey the speaker's feelings and thoughts

**Ballad**: narrative poem originally intended to be sung

## 9. Examples:

**Elegy**: In Memoriam

**Villanelle**: Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night

**Metaphysical Poetry**: Holy Sonnet 10

**Cavalier Poetry**: To His Coy Mistress

**Ballad**: The Rime of the Ancient Mariner

## 10. A Cup of Tea. Katherine Mansfield

### Modern Short Story

**Identify irony: verbal, situational and dramatic**

Dramatic irony: last conversation between Philip and Rosemary related to Miss Smith

Irony in the story: example when Rosemary called Miss Smith "her friend"; why?

**Characterization**: identify the four basic methods of characterization.

## 11. The Lady of Shalott. Tennyson

Parallel Structure in a poem: similar grammatical form for similar ideas to give rhythm and unity and to emphasize underlying meanings. Ex: "She left the web, she left the loom, she made three

paces through the room, she saw the waterlily bloom". All the lines start with a "she" and a verb, indicating that the Lady is beginning to move against the constraints of life.

Refrain in a poem: repetition of word, phrases, lines or even sentences to emphasize an idea, image or emotion. Ex: "As he rode down to Camelot", "Beside remote Shalott".

Note: the repetitions do not have to be word for word.

Related Words: Medieval Words: Ex: page, waning, churls.

Symbolism: the mirror, the river, Sir Lancelot, etc.

## 12. Thematic link

**The Lady of Shalott**: risking breaking dull life

**In Memoriam**: personal relationships; transcendence of death

**Preludes**: alienation, emptiness, despair

**Dover Beach**: human beings isolated from one another

## 13. Dover Beach. Mathew Arnold

Victorian Poetry

Identify **controlling image**

Tone

Mood

**Allusions**

## 14. William Blake. The Lamb. The Tyger. The Little Boy Found. The Little Boy Lost

Romantic Literature

Songs of Experience and Songs of Innocence

**Allegory** and **Symbols**

## 15. Beowulf

Identify **epic poetry**

Identify **caesuras**, **kennings** and **stock epithets**

Review of **alliteration** and **imagery**

Remark on **setting**

Differentiate **Christian and Pagan beliefs**

Appreciate **nature of the monsters**

## 16. Macbeth. Shakespeare

Identify dramatic irony.

Identify the prophecies of the witches' symbolism.

Identify central theme.

Identify Macbeth's tragic flaws.

Tragic hero, tragic flaw, antagonist

Soliloquy and aside

Blank verse  
Iambic pentameter

### 17. Preludes. T.S. Eliot

Modern Poetry  
Allusions  
Rhythm in Modern Verse

### 18. William Butler Yeats. *The Second Coming*

Symbols: people, places, objects, words, or actions that stand for something beyond themselves.

Ex: falcon, gyre, rocking cradle, ceremonies of innocence, etc.

Allusion: a reference to a well-known person, place, event, literary work or work of art.

Ex: Sphinx, Russian Revolution, WWI, etc.

Literary Background : poems are often inspired by a person, a landscape, an experience, or a memory. Ex: the "blood-dimmed tide" of the poem is an image of violence that seemed to be filling the world (WWI). As you study, apply your knowledge of literary background including information about the writer's philosophical beliefs, reading, and personal history. Ex: the 2000 year history cycle.

Modernism in poetry: Modernists felt that democracy and industrialism had created a depressing, fragmented world. Rather than creating realistic pictures of this world, they treated it as mere raw material. Poetry would work on this "material" with its own suggestive language. Ex: "Things fall apart; the center cannot hold".

### 20. Elizabeth Bowen: The Demon Lover

Modern Short Story  
Focusing on **ghost story**  
**Tone, word choice, foreshadowing, personification, flashback**  
Appreciation of **setting** and **suspense**

### 21. Geoffrey Chaucer. The Canterbury Tales: The Wife of Bath's Tale

Medieval Romance and Code of Chivalry  
Identify **narrative poem** and **frame story**

### 22. Lord Byron. She Walks in Beauty When We Two Parted

Romantic Poetry  
Review **simile** and **metaphor**  
**Personification**  
**Apostrophe**

### 23. Stephen Spender. What I Expected

Identify **free verse**  
Review **imagery**

**24. 1984. George Orwell**

**Identify the following characters in the novel:**

Ruler of Oceania

Powerful member of the Inner Party

Disguised member of the Thought Police

Ruler of the Brotherhood

Specializes in language

**24. Identify the intention of the following phrases and ministries:**

War is Peace

Freedom is Slavery

Ignorance is Strength

Ministry of Truth

Ministry of Plenty

**25. Identify the main slogan in *1984*.**