



Course Description: Twentieth-Century Poetry

Suitable for: Years 8-9

Prerequisites: *Poetry for Beginners* OR *Literary Techniques* (one-day crash course)

Duration: 2 hours every week for 10 weeks; **20 hours total**

About: The twentieth century was pretty grim. Not only did we have to invent the term 'World War,' but we also had to use it twice. It's no wonder that many of the poems written in that period are full of fear, anxiety, despair. But the second half of the twentieth century saw some countries becoming more confident and prosperous, and the poets of this period gave us fresh perspectives on old themes: love, nature, ageing. In this course we will survey the wide world of twentieth-century poetry while honing our analytical and writing skills.

Student Writing Outcomes:

- Opinion pieces and partial essays based on the poems read in class;
- Full essays discussing twentieth-century poetry and its relation to its context;
- Creative writing based on the poems read in class; and
- Personal essays based on the themes present in twentieth-century poetry.

Student Learning Objectives:

- Reviewing and consolidating an extensive list of techniques for poetry analysis;
- Understanding the themes and language of twentieth-century poetry;
- Having the tools to analyse and write about poetry in analytical essays, personal essays, and creative responses;
- Exploring the relationship between history, biography, and poetry; and
- Considering the prevalence of twentieth-century concerns in our own day.