Wednesday 14th October 2020

Can you remember the definitions from yesterday?

minion	From the French 'mignon' - darling
wimpling	to follow a winding course/meander
sillion	thick soil overturned by the plough
chevalier	a knight who rides on a horse
dapple	light flickering through moving leaves / dappled fur or feathers are shaded
dauphin	the crown prince (the male heir to the throne)
ecstasy	an overwhelming feeling of great happiness or joyful excitement.
rung	rising through the air in spirals (falconry term)
plume	feathers of a bird

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Name of poem: The Windhover

Poet: Gerard Manley Hopkin

Type of poem: Sonnet

A sonnet is 14 lines long and is written in iambic pentemeter.

Iambic 'pentameter' refers to the number five, just like a pentagon. When lines of text are written in this form, they have five 'feet', each composed of one unstressed and one stressed syllable.

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jz1ZHccoTms

To Christ our Lord

I caught this morning morning's minion, king-
dom of daylight's dauphin, dapple-dawn-drawn Falcon, in his riding
Of the rolling level underneath him steady air, and striding
High there, how he rung upon the rein of a wimpling wing
In his ecstasy! then off, off forth on swing,
As a skate's heel sweeps smooth on a bow-bend: the hurl and gliding
Rebuffed the big wind. My heart in hiding
Stirred for a bird,—the achieve of, the mastery of the thing!

Brute beauty and valour and act, oh, air, pride, plume, here
Buckle! AND the fire that breaks from thee then, a billion
Times told lovelier, more dangerous, O my chevalier!

No wonder of it: sheer plod makes plough down sillion
Shine, and blue-bleak embers, ah my dear,
Fall, gall themselves, and gash gold-vermillion.

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Let's break down what the poem is about!

What is a windhover?

Where is the windhover?

The windhover is a bird with the rare ability to hover in the air, essentially flying in place while it scans the ground in search of prey. The poet describes how he saw (or "caught") one of these birds in the midst of its hovering.

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The bird is described as the darling of the morning, the crown prince of the kingdom of daylight.

It describes it hovering (rein) and darting away.

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Describing the bird.

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DGJu6LzUfYM

Alliteration

Alliteration is when the sound or letter at the beginning of each or most of the words in a sentence is the same.

Alliteration is used in poetry to create many different effects. It can be used to create a greater and more interesting description of different themes, people and objects.

Some examples of alliteration:

Sally sells sea shells by the sea shore.

All authors allow authority after midnight.

Theresa tripped and tumbled tremendously over the tree.



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With your partner, highlight examples of alliteration.

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What do we mean by imagery?

How might it be created in poetry?

- description that sparks the senses
- vivid description (figurative language)



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With your partner, highlight examples of imagery.

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With your partner, identify the short words in the line 'brute beauty'. What effect do these words have?

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You are going to recite the poem with your partner.

How many lines of it can you remember off by heart?

Be prepared to recite to the class!

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https://www.sparknotes.com/poetry/hopkins/section2/