

CSEC English B Poetry Worksheet

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Themes in CSEC English B Poems

Here are some of the major themes in your CSEC English “B” poems.

Love	Childhood experiences
Family relationships	Discrimination
Conflict (Internal/external)	The role of women in society
Man vs Man	Religion
Man vs Nature	Dreams and aspirations
Nature	Hate
Perception versus reality	Attitude to power and authority
Loss	Beauty
Gender roles	Oppression
Politics	Parenthood

Instruction:

Identify the dominant themes in the following poems.

1. An African Thunderstorm -David Rubadiri

Love	Childhood experiences
Family relationships	Discrimination
Conflict (Internal/external)	The role of women in society
Man vs Man	Religion
Man vs Nature	Dreams and aspirations
Nature	Hate
Perception versus reality	Attitude to power and authority
Loss	Beauty
Gender roles	Oppression
Politics	Parenthood

2. Once Upon a Time -Gabriel Okara

Love	Childhood experiences
Family relationships	Discrimination
Conflict (Internal/external)	The role of women in society
Man vs Man	Religion
Man vs Nature	Dreams and aspirations
Nature	Hate

Perception versus reality	Attitude to power and authority
Loss	Beauty
Gender roles	Oppression
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3. Birdshooting Season -Olive Senior

Love	Childhood experiences
Family relationships	Discrimination
Conflict (Internal/external)	The role of women in society
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Man vs Nature	Dreams and aspirations
Nature	Hate
Perception versus reality	Attitude to power and authority
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4. West Indies, U.S.A. -Stewart Brown

Love	Childhood experiences
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Man vs Nature	Dreams and aspirations
Nature	Hate
Perception versus reality	Attitude to power and authority
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5. Sonnet Composed Upon Westminster Bridge- William Wordsworth

Love	Childhood experiences
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6. Orchids- Hazel Simmons-McDonald

Love	Childhood experiences
Family relationships	Discrimination
Conflict (Internal/external)	The role of women in society

Man vs Man	Religion
Man vs Nature	Dreams and aspirations
Nature	Hate
Perception versus reality	Attitude to power and authority
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7. The Woman Speaks to the Man who has employed Her Son- Lorna Goodison

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8. It is the Constant Image of your Face -Dennis Brutus

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9. God's Grandeur- Gerard Manley Hopkins

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10. A Stone's Throw -Elma Mitchell

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Man vs Nature	Dreams and aspirations
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Perception versus reality	Attitude to power and authority
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11. Test Match Sabina Park -Stewart Brown

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12. Theme for English B -Langston Hughes

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Perception versus reality	Attitude to power and authority
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13. Dreaming Black Boy -James Berry

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Man vs Nature	Dreams and aspirations
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Perception versus reality	Attitude to power and authority
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Politics	Parenthood
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14. My Parents -Stephen Spender

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Perception versus reality	Attitude to power and authority
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15. Dulce et Decorum Est -Wilfred Owen

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16. This is the Dark Time, My Love- Martin Carter

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17. Ol'Higue- Mark McWatt

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18. Mirror -Sylvia Plath

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19. South -Kamau Brathwaite

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20. Little Boy Crying -Mervyn Morris

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