**Compare the ways poets present power in ‘London’ and in one other poem from Power and Conflict.**

How to structure a comparative paragraph:

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| Assessment Objective | Poem | PETER | What? How? Why? |
| AO1 | Poem 1 and 2  Make a comparison | Point | What are the poets saying about the theme in the question? |
| AO2 | Poem 1 | Evidence, Technical term, Explore the effect, Relate to the context | How do you know that what you said in your point is true?  Why did the poet do this? |
| AO3 |
| AO2 | Poem 2 | Evidence, Technical term, Explore the effect, Relate to the context | How do you know that what you said in your point is true?  Why did the poet do this? |
| AO3 |

Essay Plan:

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| Comparison | ‘London’ | ‘My Last Duchess’ |
| Both  However,  whereas | Regular four line stanzas  ABAB rhyme scheme  Enjambment | Dramatic monologue  Rhyming couplets  Enjambment |
| Both  However,  whereas | “chartered street […] chartered Thames”  “mind-forged manacles” | “I gave commands then all smiles stopped together.”  “since none puts by the curtain I have drawn for you, but I” |
| Both  However,  whereas | “chimney sweeper’s cry Every blackening church appals” | “Notice Neptune, though, taming a sea horse” |

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| **Compare the ways poets present power in ‘London’ and in one other poem from ‘Power and Conflict’.** |
| **What do the poets say about power?**  **Step 1:** Highlight the key word in the question.  **Step 2:** Make a comparison between the poems, and use the key word in the question. Use the structure: Both… However, … whereas… | Both Blake and Browning use the structure of their poems to portray the idea that human power can dominate others. However, Blake presents power through the government’s manipulation of the capital city and the extent of their control whereas in ‘My Last Duchess’, Browning presents power through the character of the Duke who is discussing his former wife.  In ‘London’, Blake uses regular four line stanzas to highlight the dominance the government have over London and its people. In addition to this, the alternate abab rhyme scheme and use of iambic tetrameter establishes the repression of London’s citizens as a consequence of the government’s desire to possess more power. The alternate rhyme creates a cyclical notion of the suffering caused by power by depicting how the authority damage the inferior.Moreover, the use of enjambment suggests that the suffering in London will persist as the government has caused corruption in London because of their ambition for power.  Blake was critical of those who tried to have absolute power, and he supported the French Revolution. Using the structure of ‘London’ to show the constraints of the government’s power reflects his own views.  In contrast, ‘My Last Duchess’ is a dramatic monologue written in one stanza. This highlights the Duke’s power as he is the only person who speaks in the poem. In addition to this, Browning uses rhyming couplets which provides the poem with a controlled, restrained tone and reflects the Duke’s controlling character. However, the use of enjambment suggests that the Duke almost loses control as he gets carried away talking to the envoy. Unlike ‘London’, the Duke’s own emotions of anger and frustration mean that he almost loses control which could mirror how he lost control of his duchess.  Browning uses the character of the Duke to explore ideas about morality in Victorian England. |
| **How do you know?**  **Step 1:** Introduce and embed a short quotation or quotations (no quotation needed if talking about structure) **from the named poem**, so you provide evidence for the point you have made in your first sentence.  **Step 2:** ‘Zoom in’ on the most important words in the quotation and analyse the effect of them (the ideas, feelings and associations which they produce). If you know the technical terms for the words you’ve zoomed in on, use them!  **Challenge:** Link to other parts of the poem to reinforce your point and offer another interpretation. |
| **Why did the poet present power in this way?**  **Step 1:** Use the writer’s name to explore why the theme was presented in this way.  **Step 2:** Link to the context of the text. |
| **How do you know?**  **Step 1**: Use a comparative connective to link your ideas (e.g. Similarly or However)  **Step 2**: Introduce and embed a short quotation or quotations (no quotation needed if talking about structure) from your chosen poem, so you provide evidence for the point you made at the start of your paragraph.  **Step 2**: ‘Zoom in’ on the most important words in the quotation and analyse the effect of them (the ideas, feelings and associations which they produce). If you know the technical terms for the words you’ve zoomed in on, use them!  **Challenge**: Link to other parts of the poem to reinforce your point and offer another interpretation. |
| **Why did the poet present power in this way?**  **Step 1**: Use the writer’s name to explore why the theme was presented in this way.  **Step 2**: Link to the context of the text. |