

“Do Now” Work

How does Garland present her ideas in 'Kamikaze'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

Which poems relate to each of the themes on the grid?

The poems you've ticked with the same theme will be good to compare in an exam.

	Power of humans	Power of nature	Effects of conflict	Reality of conflict	Loss	Negative emotions	Individual experiences	Memory	Fear	Experience of soldiers
Bayonet Charge										
Exposure										
Kamikaze										
Poppies										
Remains										
The Charge of the light brigade										
War Photographer										

In Silence Please



How does Garland present her ideas in 'Kamikaze'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

1. Read the extract below:

Kamikaze were Japanese suicide pilots who attacked Allied warships in the Pacific Ocean during the Second World War. The name means "divine wind" and refers to a typhoon that destroyed an enemy fleet in the 13th century.

What did kamikaze pilots believe?

Many kamikaze pilots were very young, mostly between 18 and 24. They believed that dying for Japan and their emperor was very honorable. They saw themselves much like the samurai of the Middle Ages, brave Japanese warriors.

Before the pilots went on their missions a special ceremony usually took place. They received a headband with a rising sun made by a thousand women. According to some stories pilots flew around a holy mountain and dropped some flowers before they flew on their last mission, certain that they would never come back again.

2. In your own words:

- a) What did Kamikaze pilots do in WWII?**
- b) What did Kamikaze pilots believe?**
- c) How might the idea of Kamikaze pilots link to current conflicts?**

How does Garland present her ideas in 'Kamikaze'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

Beatrice Garland's poem, written in 2013, reflects the immense social pressure brought to bear on the pilots to carry out kamikaze missions as part of Japan's war effort during World War Two. Although we may think of this poem as being about a specific military practice carried out by Japanese pilots during wartime, the poem also has a strong contemporary relevance. Instead of simply thinking of the poem as being about a military strategy in the distant past, it might also prompt the thought that suicide missions are part of contemporary conflicts too and are very much in the news.

The poem perhaps prompts us to, think about the consequences of suicide missions for families in the modern world as well as in past conflicts.

How does Garland present her ideas in 'Kamikaze'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

Manchester attack: What we know so far

5 June 2017 | Manchester

f t b e Share

Twenty-two people were killed and 116 injured in a suicide bombing at Manchester Arena.

Here's what we know about the attack so far.



How does Garland present her ideas in 'Kamikaze'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

Key Words

- 'kamikaze' – a Japanese word that literally means 'divine wind'. It refers to a suicide mission in war.
- 'incantation' – a magic spell or chant
- 'bunting' – strings of flags, often used in celebration
- 'breakers' – big waves that come in to the shore

How does Garland present her ideas in 'Kamikaze'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

Beatrice Garland 'Kamikaze'

Her father embarked at sunrise
with a flask of water, a samurai sword
in the cockpit, a shaven head
full of powerful incantations
and enough fuel for a one-way
journey into history

but half way there, she thought,
recounting it later to her children,
he must have looked far down
at the little fishing boats
strung out like bunting
on a green-blue translucent sea

and beneath them, arcing in swathes
like a huge flag waved first one way
then the other in a figure of eight,
the dark shoals of fishes
flashing silver as their bellies
swivelled towards the sun

and remembered how he
and his brothers waiting on the shore
built cairns of pearl-grey pebbles
to see whose withstood longest
the turbulent inrush of breakers
bringing their father's boat safe

– yes, *grandfather's boat* – safe
to the shore, salt-sodden, awash
with cloud-marked mackerel,
black crabs, feathery prawns,
the loose silver of whitebait and once
a tuna, the dark prince, muscular, dangerous.

*And though he came back
my mother never spoke again
in his presence, nor did she meet his eyes
and the neighbours too, they treated him
as though he no longer existed,
only we children still chattered and laughed*

*till gradually we too learned
to be silent, to live as though
he had never returned, that this
was no longer the father we loved.
And sometimes, she said, he must have wondered
which had been the better way to die.*

How does Garland present her ideas in 'Kamikaze'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

Comprehension Questions

1. What does 'kamikaze' mean?
2. When did her father start his journey?
3. What did he take with him?
4. What do the fishing boats look like?
5. What might he have remembered when he looked down at the sea?
6. What title does she give to the tuna?
7. Which colour is repeated?
8. How did his wife treat the pilot when he returned?
9. How did the children react?
10. What does she think about the way he lived after his failed mission?

Deeper Thinking Questions

1. Why do you think the pilot turned away from his mission?
2. Did he do the right thing?
3. How do you feel about the reactions of his family and neighbours?
4. What does honour mean?

How does Garland present her ideas in 'Kamikaze'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

Compare the ways poets present the effects of conflict on an individual in 'Kamikaze' and in one other poem from Power and Conflict.

'Kamikaze' Garland

Context:

'Kamikaze' refers to a Japanese practice in WWII. Pilots went on suicide missions, crashing their planes into enemy ships.

Garland wrote this poem in 2013, so the poem has relevance to modern society as people are still drawn into carrying out suicide attacks.

Themes:

Effects of conflict
Power of nature
Patriotism
Shame

- S** 'Her father' - By using the **third person**, Garland creates a distance between the father and daughter. The pilot doesn't have a voice in the poem.
- P** 'cloud-marked mackerel, black crabs...' **List** shows the beauty of nature. This is powerful as it makes the pilot turn back from his mission.
- L** 'was no longer the father we loved' - **past tense** implies the father was changed by the experience. Also, it creates distance between them.
- I** 'head full of powerful incantations' - **metaphor** - implies patriotism is like a spell. He was influenced by the propaganda.
- T** 'which had been the better way to die' - Use of the **past tense** implies there's no way back. Shows the destructive nature of patriotism.

