

POETRY SURVEY

*To improve our understanding
of the cognitive processes of
reading poetry*

Complete the questions in the pages that follow and use the prepaid envelope to return this survey

This research is being conducted by **James Garza (mljmg@leeds.ac.uk)** from the University of Leeds. Should you have any questions or concerns about this survey, please contact him at the above email address, or write to: James Garza, C/O Karen F. Priestley, Education Service Officer (Postgraduate Research), School of Languages, Cultures and Societies, G34 Michael Sadler Building, University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT.

Before you begin

Disclaimer

You are invited to complete a short survey about poetry. The purpose of this research is to investigate the different ways in which people respond to poetry. It will take you approximately 5-10 minutes to complete. There are no known risks associated with this research. Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary and will remain strictly confidential. Only anonymised data will be published. Data will be retained securely on password-protected university drives for 10 years in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. This data will be accessible only to the researcher. If you decide to participate, you may withdraw at any point up to 15 February 2019. To withdraw, simply email the code in the upper right-hand corner of this page to: mljmg@leeds.ac.uk. Withdrawal will not be possible without the code, so please record it in a safe place.

Please understand that by completing and returning this survey you are consenting to your participation in the study.

Let's get started!

Instructions

You will be shown four poems.

For each poem, you will be asked to complete three short tasks:

First, you will be asked to read the poem twice.

Second, you will be asked to underline the words or phrases that you feel are the most striking when you read the poem.

Third, you will be asked to rate the poem on some rating scales.

Finally, the last page of the survey asks for some information on your background as a reader—and that's it!

Please do this survey at a time and place where you usually read for pleasure. And remember : There are no right or wrong answers. We are interested in how you have responded to each poem.

START →

Please read the following poem twice, then follow the instructions below.

instant
瞬間
shunkan

The sea is terminal,
日が The day is a casualty.
暮れる Here's dusk.

The moon is a fatality,
夜が The day is terminal.
明ける Here's dawn.

Time is a fatality.
人も The day goes dead.
死ね And so should we.

Running out—
時が But always coming back—
またくる Time is generous with itself.

If the majesty
うつ Of the moon and sea
くしさ Is saved across death—

No less vivid,
のこる No more somber
なら Than before—

Then it must be
hito-mo
人も The ugly few are we,
shi-ne
死ね And death is what we need.

- Underline the words or phrases that you feel are the most striking, up to a maximum of ten words or phrases.
- Circle the appropriate number to answer the questions below:

Did you enjoy reading this poem?	Definitely not	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Definitely
Would you recommend this poem to someone else to read?	Definitely not	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Definitely
How enjoyable or aesthetically appealing did you find this poem?	Not at all	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Extremely
Is this poem an example of good literature?	Definitely not	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Definitely
In your opinion, how literary is this poem?	Not at all	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Extremely

NEXT →

Please read the following poem twice, then follow the instructions below.

What falls tonight is the rain
of love's desire
Dear traveler
do not ask the shorter way
but make your lodging here

- Underline the words or phrases that you feel are the most striking, up to a maximum of ten words or phrases.
- Circle the appropriate number to answer the questions below:

In your opinion, how literary is this poem?	Not at all						Extremely
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Would you recommend this poem to someone else to read?	Definitely not						Definitely
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
How enjoyable or aesthetically appealing did you find this poem?	Not at all						Extremely
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Did you enjoy reading this poem?	Definitely not						Definitely
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Is this poem an example of good literature?	Definitely not						Definitely
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

NEXT →

Please read the following poem twice, then follow the instructions below.

Two Billion Light-Years of Solitude

Human beings on this small orb
sleep, waken and work, and sometimes
wish for friends on Mars.

I've no notion
what Martians do on their small orb
(*neririing* or *kiruruing* or *hararaing*).
But sometimes they like to have friends on Earth.
No doubt about that.

Universal gravitation is the power of solitudes
pulling each other.

Because the universe is distorted,
we all seek for one another.

Because the universe goes on expanding,
we are all uneasy.

With the chill of two billion light-years of solitude,
I suddenly sneezed.

- Underline the words or phrases that you feel are the most striking, up to a maximum of ten words or phrases.
- Circle the appropriate number to answer the questions below:

How enjoyable or aesthetically appealing did you find this poem?	Not at all						Extremely
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Did you enjoy reading this poem?	Definitely not						Definitely
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Is this poem an example of good literature?	Definitely not						Definitely
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
In your opinion, how literary is this poem?	Not at all						Extremely
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Would you recommend this poem to someone else to read?	Definitely not						Definitely
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

NEXT →

Please read the following poem twice, then follow the instructions below.

Shellfish

I wake at midnight.
The little shellfish I bought last evening
are alive with their mouths slightly open.

I will eat them all when day breaks.

I laugh a hag's laugh.
Afterwards there is nothing left of the night,
except to sleep with my mouth slightly open.

- Underline the words or phrases that you feel are the most striking, up to a maximum of ten words or phrases.
- Circle the appropriate number to answer the questions below:

Is this poem an example of good literature?

Definitely not

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Definitely

Would you recommend this poem to someone else to read?

Definitely not

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Definitely

Did you enjoy reading this poem?

Definitely not

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Definitely

In your opinion, how literary is this poem?

Not at all

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Extremely

How enjoyable or aesthetically appealing did you find this poem?

Not at all

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Extremely

ALMOST DONE →

Are you a native English speaker? (Circle one)

Yes No **If so, which form of English do you speak?** British American Other _____

Did you recognise any of the poets or poems in this survey?

Yes No **If so, which one(s)?** _____

What is your highest completed level of education? (Circle one)

No formal education GCSE or equivalent A Level or equivalent
Bachelor Master Doctorate Other _____

What is your age? (Circle one)

18-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65+

How many hours per week do you typically read for pleasure? (Circle one)

Less than 1 1 to 3 3 to 5 5 to 7 7 to 9 9 to 11 11 to 13 13+

Have you ever studied literature or poetry in a class/workshop/reading group? (Circle one)

Yes No **If so, where?** (Circle all that apply) High school University Outside of school

Are you familiar with the theory of foregrounding? (Circle one) Yes No

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements :

1=Strongly disagree, 4=Neither agree nor disagree, 7=Strongly agree

I enjoy reading poetry.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I have studied poetry a lot.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I read a lot of poetry.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I find I understand poetry well.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I write poems myself.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
It is important for society to have poets.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
It is important for poetry to be taught in school.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I find studying poetry interesting.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I prefer poetry to prose.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I often read poetry at home.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I find that reading poetry enriches my life.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

FINISHED! Thank you very much!

Thank you

Thank you for taking the time to complete and submit this survey. Your responses will help us advance our understanding of the different ways in which readers process texts.

As you are among the first to participate in this study, I would like to invite you to share any comments or concerns you have about the survey itself. Were the instructions clear? Did you find any of the tasks difficult? Are there any ways in which we can improve this survey? Please use the space below:

Should you have any further questions or concerns about this survey, please contact **James Garza** at mljmg@leeds.ac.uk.

Please place your completed survey in the prepaid envelope and return it within two weeks.