

AQA Unseen Poetry

How are ideas about the future presented in 'It's Poisoning Down'?
(24 marks)

It's Poisoning Down – by Brian Patten

Granny keeps telling stories
Of how she used to go
Walking in the pouring rain
And playing in the snow.
She talks of things called flowers
She says they had nice smells.
(Sometimes she sounds convincing,
The crazy fibs she tells!)

She says that lakes and rivers
Were once all clean and pure,
But I don't believe a word,
I've heard it all before.
Poor Gran can be quite dotty –
You want to see Mum frown
When she tries to get outside
Even though it's poisoning down.

We've had to fit 'Granny locks'
To keep poor Granny in.
She really doesn't understand
How rain eats away the skin.

Both 'It's Poisoning Down' and 'Fate's Tools' present negative feelings about the world. What are the similarities and/or differences in the way these ideas are presented?

(8 marks)

Fate's Tools – by Geoffrey Lungren

The whole world is terrible
The litter is unbearable
The bottles aren't returnable
The empty cans aren't burnable
The sonic boom's incredible
The fish no longer edible
The off-shore rigs are leakable
The billboards are unspeakable
The slumlords are incurable
The smog is unendurable
The phosphates aren't dissolvable
The problems are unsolvable
The mess is unforgivable
Let's face it- life's unliveable.