***Poetry assignment***

**Assignment 1**

Carpe Diem: In the movie the English teacher encourages the boys to seize the day. We see that the boys start to do more things that they want to do instead of worrying about the consequences.

Following and leading: John Keating, the English teacher, shows the boys that they don’t always have to obey to everything and that they can decide for themselves. An example for this is when Neil Perry decided to disobey his fathers rules to do something he enjoyed instead

I feel like Neil Perry had transformed the most through his experiences in the film, he was always pressured by his father to do what he want, which is for him to become a lawyer. His father was very against him doing anything else so when Neil Perry gets a part in a Shakespear play he decides its best for his father to not know about it. He starts rebelling against his parents and even though this did not end well for him, it still changed him quite a bit.

I believe Richard Cameron was most static during the movie. He never made any progress. He was always quite hesitant with joining the Dead Poet Society. He was the first to blame John Keating after Neil Perry's death.

John Keating is an optimistic character. He believes in seizing the day and encourages the boys to pursue their dreams, I don’t think he changed much but he did help change the boys.

I liked Neil Perry's traits the most, since he started rebelling against his extremely controlling father, he had changed a lot. He overcame his fears and finally did what he wanted to. This obviously didn’t end well when he committed suicide after his father found out and wasn’t supportive again.

**Assignment 2**

Poems read:

* She walks in beauty by Lord Byron
* The ballad of William Bloat by Raymond Calvert
* The road not taken by Robert Frost
* Sonnet XVIII by William Shakespear
* Oh captain, my captain by Walt Whitman

Favourites:

1. The ballad of William Bloat by Raymond Calvert
2. She walks in beauty by Lord Byron

Short response on She walks in beauty:

The name of my second favourite poem is “She walks in beauty”. It is a love poem written by Lord Byron, Wikipedia states, ‘Lady Caroline Lamb called Lord Byron crazy, bad and dangerous to know.’ This was probably said because of the numerous love affairs and huge debts Lord Byron had.

The poem is about a woman who Lord Byron calls as beautiful as the night. There is not that big of a plot behind the poem except for that she is beautiful. The aim of this poem is quite obviously to charm a woman. The rhythm in the poem is ABABAB and Lord Byron used the iambic tetrameter for this poem. I enjoyed reading this poem because I thought it was very well written, additionally I thought it was very engaging and endearing.

**Assignment 3**

The ballad of William Bloat by Raymond Calvert

SOAPSTone:

* Subject: a man who tries to kill his wife and then himself, the title doesn’t provide any information on the poem whatsoever.
* Occasion: the ballad was written after the German rise to power in 1926, hence the reference: ‘*’For the razor blade was German made. But the sheet was Belfast linen.’’* Clydesburn.blogspot.com states: *‘’His wife Irene became an independent MP. Irene later said that "it was conceived as a piece of fun with no political significance whatsoever.’*’ Since the poem has a dark but humorous undertone I believe this is true.
* Audience: I believe this piece was written for a more mature audience. It wouldn’t be suitable to read to a group of children, furthermore it is more relatable for adults since younger people usually don’t relate to wanting to kill their wife.
* Purpose for writing: As stated above; Raymond Calvert wrote The ballad of William Bloat in a comedic sense.
* Speaker of the piece: The narrator relates all action of their work with 3rd person pronouns, such as he/she/they, Hence the piece is written in 3rd person. This also means that the narrator is not in the poem.
* Tone: This piece is written in a dark humorous tone. I believe it is supposed to be relatable, even though it has quite dark and cruel undertones.

The plot:

This poem is about a man; William Bloat who hated his wife. He hated her so much he planned on killing her. One night he killed her by slitting her throat, but when he heard law enforcement, he decided to kill himself too. Eventually he passed away but his wife survived, seemingly because the blade was German made and the rope was Belfast linen, as the last line of the poem states.

**Assignment 4**

Raymond Calverts The ballad of William Bloat dramatizes the conflict between William Bloat and his wife through rhyme and assonance.

The poem is about a man who really despised his wife. When one night he decided to kill her, he slit her throat with a razor while she was sleeping. The way the author describes what happens gives you a clear view: 'And the pool of gore on the bedroom floor
Grew clotted and cold and thick.'

After the murder he heard 'the sudden awe of the angry law'' he resolved himself to kill too. He did this by using their bedsheet as a rope and hung himself. He used his last breath to curse the pope, the poem states.

Eventually the man failed to succeed in killing the wife and she lived to see another day. I found the last part quite interesting, here he reveals that the wife had survived and lived, while the husband had died. The poem hypothesizes the reason for this was that the blade was German made but the sheet which the husband used to hang himself with was Belfast Linen. This last statement reveals the poems nationalistic undertone.

The rhyme and assonance gives the poem a clear rhythm and makes it easy to read. There is a lot of rhyme used and in some sentences, you notice a slight assonance. The rhymes occur at the end of sentences and within them.