

You could email me your responses to this task if you like. Top Tip: Language Features are devices such as simile, metaphor, alliteration, personification and hyperbole. (The last two features we will look at soon).

Reading with Ric Poetry - The Eagle by Tennyson

We can analyse a poem and consider how a poet uses language to convey meaning.

Begin by reading aloud the poem - it is at the bottom of these questions. Hear it as you read it and picture it in your mind.



What is the poem about?

Retrieve



INTERPRET

What are the 'crooked hands'? Does the eagle actually have hands which are crooked?! What do we call it when an author does this: simile, metaphor or alliteration?

'He clasps the crag with crooked hands.' Say this aloud - what language feature has the poet used?

Why does the author describe the sea as 'wrinkled' and 'crawling'?

What clue can you find in the poem that describes to you what this eagle's habitat is like? What can you picture?

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What word does the poet use to describe the colour of the world around the eagle?

How many other synonyms for this colour can you think of/research?

Can you think what the poet is describing as coloured in this way? There are two things - they 'ring' or frame the eagle (like a circle).

Why does the eagle suddenly drop 'like a thunderbolt'? What do you think it is doing?

What language feature is, '....like a thunderbolt'. Has the eagle actually turned into a thunderbolt?



This poem is short but powerful. How has the poet managed to create such vivid (clear) descriptions of an eagle in such a short piece of writing, do you think?

Can you memorise the poem and perform it to your people at home?

Challenge: could you craft a final verse for this poem?

Be creative: sketch and colour the illustration to accompany this famous poem.

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