

Language

Looking for the underlying meaning(s) of a poem

Before

Students and teacher read the poem together. Students get 5 or 6 questions about figures of speech, the structure of the poem and the meaning of particular selected parts of the poem. Students get 10 minutes to try and answer the questions. Questions and answers are discussed in class. Then, with the help of further questions asked by the teacher, the poem is discussed in detail and the students try to come to an understanding of the meaning of the poem.

After reversal and omission

Whole task:

Pupils have to come to an understanding of the poem, of its underlying message by looking for relations between different words, concepts and the structure of the poem.

Adaptive support:

- all students are allowed to use an electronic device to look for background information about the location about which the poem is written and about the rituals and catholic symbols that are being used.

- students who feel uncomfortable around poems and who don't know where to start get a series of questions to guide their attention to specific elements of the poem.