

English Literature: Week beginning 27th April 2020

These tasks will help you to know about the context of the poem *Remains*, written by Simon Armitage - one of the poems from the Power and Conflict cluster.

If you need any help, email office@grangepark.kent.sch.uk and then your email will be forwarded on to us and we can help you. Mrs Dixon (Year 10) and Mrs Shaddock (Year 9).

Remains Simon Armitage



LO: To be able to identify relevant context.

Context:

The context in which a poem was written can sometimes tell you more about its themes, message and meaning. It is important to understand events around the time of the poem as it gives us insight into the themes, ideas and discussions that were going on at the time of the poet's writing.

Task 1:

- Read the information about *Remains* on BBC bitesize (link below) - read page 6 only.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zcsjmn/b/revision/6>

Task 2:

Research Armitage's background to find the answers to these questions and make notes.

Questions to consider:

1. Are aspects of the poet's life reflected in the poem?
2. Is the time or place it was written reflected in the poem?

Some ideas to help you answer the questions above:

- Date text was written.
- Armitage's life - job
- What society was like at the time the text was written.
- What or who influenced the writer.
- Political or social influences there would have been.

Task 3:

Using your research notes, answer the questions below:

1. Are aspects of the poet's life reflected in the poem?
2. Is the time or place it was written reflected in the poem?

Extension task:

Write a summary (a brief statement which gives the main points).

For example:

Simon Armitage was born in ... and he was a soldier... He suffered from ... His experiences...

Think about what is relevant to the poem Remains and how it could help you to answer an exam question about the poem.