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| **Section C: Unseen poetry**  Answer **both** questions in this section |

‘**Dad’ by Elaine Feinstein**

Your old hat hurts me, and those black

fat raisins you liked to press into

my palm from your soft heavy hand:

I see you staggering back up the path

with sacks of potatoes from some local farm,

fresh eggs, flowers. Every day I grieve

for your great heart broken and you gone.

You loved to watch the trees. This year

you did not see their Spring.

The sky was freezing over the fen

as on that somewhere secretly appointed day

you beached: cold, white-faced, shivering.

What happened, old bull, my loyal

hoarse-voiced warrior? The hammer

blow that stopped you in your track

and brought you to a hospital monitor

could not destroy your courage

to the end you were

uncowed and unconcerned with pleasing anyone.

I think of you now as once again safely

at my mother's side, the earth as

chosen as a bed, and feel most sorrow for

all that was gentle in

my childhood buried there

already forfeit, now forever lost.

**Unseen Poetry Section C**

**Question 1 (24 marks)**

1. Work out what the poem is about…

* What is the subject of the poem?
* Who is speaking?
* Who is the narrator speaking to?

1. Why has it been written?

* What are they trying to say?
* What ideas are they using?
* Is it an emotional response to something that has happened?
* Is it trying to get an emotional response from the reader?
* Is it portraying a message or opinion?

1. Identify the thoughts and feelings in the poem (quote)

* What are the different emotions and feelings of the narrator or poet?
* What is the mood or atmosphere of the poem?
* How has the poet used different poetic techniques to show these attitudes and feelings?

1. Identify language and structure in the poem (specific analysis)

* What are the different poetic techniques that the poet has used to show the attitudes and feelings?
* How has the poet shown these feelings through form and structure (eg rhyme, rhythm, line length, stanza length etc)?
* How has the poet used poetic devices to show these feelings (eg metaphor, simile, enjambment, alliteration, personification etc)?

5. Explore your personal response to the poem

* How do you feel about the poem?
* How well does the poet get the message across in the poem?
* What is the impact on the reader?

Now bullet point your answer to the following question- remember it is worth 24 marks, so we expect around 2 pages of analysis. Therefore we will need at least 5 different bullet points here.

**In the poem ‘Dad’, how does the poet present the speaker’s feelings towards her father and her past?**