



▲ American poet Robert Frost

GENERAL VOCABULARY
conversational informal, as though spoken in conversation with someone else

KEY POINT

Think how structure in poetry might lend itself to different effects. Focus on the stanzas, line length, rhyme and rhythm.

SUBJECT VOCABULARY
retrospective written in the past tense; looking back at events that have already occurred

ACTIVITY 5

A02

SKILLS

CRITICAL THINKING

▲ LOOKING OUT FOR STRUCTURE

Read 'Out, Out—' (pages 232–233). Make a note of anything that you notice about the structure of the poem. Consider the points in the bullet list on page 224.

'Out, Out—' consists of a single stanza. It is written in 'blank verse', with five stresses to a line, which is known formally as 'iambic pentameter' and which is often used to replicate a **conversational** tone. The poem is realistic, rhyming scheme. This form suits the conversational tone. The poem helps to shocking and dramatic, so consider how the construction of the poem helps to achieve these effects. The importance of the unusual title is something to be discussed. Particularly, the dash after the repeated word 'out' in the title indicates an unfinished statement.

ACTIVITY 6

A02

SKILLS

CRITICAL THINKING, ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION

▲ WRITING ABOUT STRUCTURE IN POETRY

Re-read 'Out, Out—' and look out for the points that have just been discussed. Then write your own P-E-E paragraph about structure in the poem.

ACTIVITY 7

A02

SKILLS

CRITICAL THINKING, ANALYSIS, REASONING, INTERPRETATION

▲ ANTHOLOGY TEXTS

Review the fiction texts in the Anthology. Which ones are **retrospective** or use time-shifts? Write a P-E-E paragraph about the narrative structure, considering the following points.

- What narrative links are used to suggest a movement in time?
- How much is revealed about the characters? Using time-shift can give depth to a character, but can also be used to create a sense of mystery.
- Is there a strong contrast between the tone or mood of the paragraphs where time shifts? Is weather, setting or situation used to reinforce this sense of contrast?