

SUBJECT VOCABULARY

contrast where two objects, people or ideas are placed next to each other to highlight their differences

CONTRAST

Throughout the poem, Harrison conveys the **contrast** between the activities of ordinary Sarajevans and the strange and difficult conditions in which they live. He does this by presenting everyday activities alongside evidence of the violence of war.

Some of the techniques used in the language to express this contrast are:

- associations – that is, hinting at a setting, a situation or feelings by using related words and phrases
- contrasting word chains, such as lists of peaceful activities followed by contrasting vocabulary suggesting violence and war.

Copy and complete the following table with examples of contrasting language and its effect.

▼ LINES	CONTRASTING WORDS OR PHRASES	▼ EFFECT OF THE CONTRAST
4-6	'queuing for the ...grams of bread / often dodging snipers on the way'	Queueing is an everyday activity, but the idea of being shot at becoming part of the routine is shocking.
10-12	'streets Serb shells destroyed / walking at a stroller's pace'	

ACTIVITY 1

A04

A05

SKILLS

PROBLEM SOLVING, CREATIVITY,
INNOVATION, INTELLECTUAL
INTEREST

▼ WRITING TASKS

- 1 Research the story of Vedran Smailovic, a cellist in the Sarajevo Philharmonic Orchestra.
- 2 Write a story that focuses on an act that shows courage or celebrates life.
- 3 Do some more research on daily life during the Bosnian War, then write a piece called 'Romance under Siege' about trying to establish a relationship during wartime conditions.

EXAM-STYLE QUESTIONS

A01

A02

SKILLS

CRITICAL THINKING,
ANALYSIS, REASONING,
INTERPRETATION

How does the writer successfully convey the horror of war and the ability of human beings to rise above it? In your answer, you should write about:

- the ideas about war conveyed in the poem
- the way the writer uses images and contrast
- the writer's use of words, phrases and techniques.

You should support your answer with close reference to the passage, including **brief** quotations.

(30 marks)