

## EXPLORING LANGUAGE

## GENERAL VOCABULARY

**conversational** informal, as though spoken in conversation with someone else  
**predominate** have the most importance or influence, or to be most easily noticed

## KEY POINT

Visual imagery is common in literature; however, a writer can deploy other kinds of imagery, all of which evoke the human senses to draw in the reader.

## SUBJECT VOCABULARY

**rhyme scheme** the rhyming pattern used in a poem

## STYLE

The language of the poem is mostly straightforward and even quite **conversational**.

- Find two or three examples of this style of language.
- What do you think is the effect of this style? Does it make the poem more realistic? Does it seem more accessible to you?

## IMAGES

The images that the writer creates in this poem are not only visual. In fact, although visual imagery **predominates** this text, there are many other types of images used as well. Copy and complete the following table with examples of different types of imagery and their effect.

| ▼ TYPE OF IMAGE  | ▼ EXAMPLE                           | ▼ EFFECT  |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Visual (sight)   |                                     |   |
| Auditory (sound) | 'tender radar of the tone of voice' | The image of radar is taken from the language of warfare. This makes it appropriate for the situation and also creates irony. The emotion expressed is in direct contrast to the horror of war. |
| Tactile (touch)  |                                     |   |

## LIGHT AND DARKNESS

Reference to light and darkness are important in this poem and a variety of nouns as well as adjectives are used to show this. Copy and complete the following table with examples and explain their effect. One has been done for you.

| ▼ NOUN  | ▼ EFFECT  | ▼ ADJECTIVE | ▼ EFFECT |
|---------|---|-------------|----------|
| 'match' | A source of light; being small it resembles the fading signs of life in Sarajevo. |             |          |
|         |   |             |          |
|         |   |             |          |

## RHYME

A technique often seen in poetry is the use of rhyme. Different **rhyme schemes** can have different effects.

- What is the rhyme scheme of the poem? What effect does this have on you, the reader? Why do you think the writer chose such a simple rhyme scheme?