

Exercise walk-through

The function of structure in a text ■ 5.1

eXercise

You must be able to

- define closed and open forms
- state what open forms may still have
- state the CED's exam note about labels
- explain what 'structures combine' means

Method — Closed forms

Closed forms of poetry include predictable patterns in the structure of lines, stanzas, meter, and rhyme, which develop relationships among ideas in the poem.

Method — Open forms

Open forms may not follow expected or predictable patterns in the structure of their lines or stanzas, but they may still have structures that develop relationships between ideas. Open is not unstructured.

Method — The exam note

“The AP Exam will not require students to label or identify specific rhyme schemes, metrical patterns, or forms of poetry.” Naming a sonnet earns nothing; explaining what its turn does earns everything.

Method — Combining

Structures combine in texts to emphasise certain ideas and concepts. Rhyme, line length and stanza shape act together, so an analysis of one in isolation is thinner than the poem.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

Define closed and open forms.

Solution 2.1

Worked steps

closed forms use predictable patterns of lines, stanzas, meter and rhyme **B1**; open forms may not follow predictable patterns but may still have structures developing relationships between ideas **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

State the CED's exam note about labels.

Solution 2.2

Method: The exam note

Worked steps

the exam will not require students to label or identify specific rhyme schemes **B1**,
metrical patterns or forms of poetry **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 2 marks

“Open” is not “unstructured”.

(a) Explain why.

(b) State what “structures combine” means.

Solution 2.3

Method: Open forms

Worked steps

(a) an open-form poem may still arrange lines and stanzas to develop relationships between ideas **B1**, so it has structure without a predictable pattern **B1**. (b) rhyme, line length and stanza shape act together to emphasise ideas **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

The AP Exam will not require students to

- A** label rhyme schemes, metrical patterns or forms
- B** read poems
- C** quote poems
- D** write essays

Solution 3.1

Method: The exam note

A label rhyme schemes, metrical patterns or forms



B read poems

C quote poems

D write essays

Worked steps

A. the CED's own note.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

Open forms may still have structures that

A develop relationships between ideas

B rhyme perfectly

C count syllables

D repeat stanzas

Solution 3.2

Method: Open forms

A develop relationships between ideas



B rhyme perfectly

C count syllables

D repeat stanzas

Worked steps

A. relationships between ideas.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

A student's answer names a poem's form and stops.

- (a) State what is missing.
- (b) Explain what the CED's note implies about marks.

Solution 3.3

Method: Closed forms

Worked steps

(a) what the form does in this poem **B1**. (b) the label itself is not assessed **B1**, so the marks lie entirely in explaining the structure's effect **B1**.