

“A Piece of My Heart” – Bridget Dore (South African poet)

1. I gave a piece of my heart to you –
2. not because I wanted to,
3. but because you asked.
4. I thought you would be gentle with it,
5. that you would wrap it in soft words
6. and water it with love.
7. But you left it on a shelf
8. to dry out and crack.
9. And when I asked for it back
10. you handed it over,
11. bruised and brittle
12. and broken.

Question 3

- 3.1 What is the poem about? Summarise in one sentence. (1)
- 3.2 Identify two verbs in lines 7–8 that suggest neglect. (2)
- 3.3 Refer to lines 5–6. What is the **extended metaphor** used for love in this stanza? (2)
- 3.4 Explain the emotional state of the speaker in lines 9–12. Use at least two adjectives. (2)
- 3.5 Do you think the poem is effective in showing emotional pain? Quote to support your answer. (2)
- 3.6 What is the **tone** of the poem? Choose one: bitter / romantic / playful – and give a reason. (1)

The Wind James Stephens

The wind stood up and gave a shout.
He whistled on his fingers and
Kicked the withered leaves about
And thumped the branches with his hand
And said that he'd kill and kill,
And so he will and so he will

Question 1

- 1.1 What is the **tone** of the poem? Choose one: peaceful / violent / sad. (1)
- 1.2 Quote **two verbs** from lines 1–4 that describe the wind's actions. (2)
- 1.3 What figure of speech is used in line 1 and 4? Explain it. (2)

- 1.4 Why do you think the wind is described as saying “he’d kill and kill”? (2)
- 1.5 Do you think the poet respects or fears the wind? Justify your answer with evidence. (3)