

ONE SHEET REVISION

'Valentine' by Carol Ann Duffy

Summarise what the poem is about in full sentences:

Annotate the poem with points you can remember from your initial study:

Valentine

Not a red rose or a satin heart.

I give you an onion.

It is a moon wrapped in brown paper.

It promises light

5 like the careful undressing of love.

Here.

It will blind you with tears

like a lover.

It will make your reflection

10 a wobbling photo of grief.

I am trying to be truthful.

Not a cute card or a kissogram.

I give you an onion.

Its fierce kiss will stay on your lips,

15 possessive and faithful

as we are,

for as long as we are.

Take it.

Its platinum loops shrink to a wedding-ring,

20 if you like.

Lethal.

Its scent will cling to your fingers,

cling to your knife.

CAROL ANN DUFFY

Complete the following questions on context:

- 1) Why is it important to know Duffy likes to break conventions and criticise society?
- 2) Duffy is a feminist: why is this important?
- 3) How is this shown in the poem?

Complete each analytical verb with a different idea:

Duffy may have written the poem:

to criticise

to teach

to warn

to reveal the importance of

to celebrate

ONE SHEET REVISION

Annotate the following quotations by answering the questions for each:



- 1) What does the line mean?
- 2) What does the line suggest?
- 3) How has Duffy used language to present her relationship?

'Not a red rose or a satin heart'

'I give you an onion'

'a wobbling photo of grief'

'cling to your knife'

How does Duffy present her relationship in the poem?

Answer in full sentences.