#### **POEMS FOR ENGL 263**

### She Walks in Beauty BY LORD BYRON (GEORGE GORDON)

She walks in beauty, like the night Of cloudless climes and starry skies; And all that's best of dark and bright Meet in her aspect and her eyes; Thus mellowed to that tender light Which heaven to gaudy day denies.

One shade the more, one ray the less, Had half impaired the nameless grace Which waves in every raven tress, Or softly lightens o'er her face; Where thoughts serenely sweet express, How pure, how dear their dwelling-place.

And on that cheek, and o'er that brow, So soft, so calm, yet eloquent, The smiles that win, the tints that glow, But tell of days in goodness spent, A mind at peace with all below, A heart whose love is innocent!

### The Second Coming BY WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS

Turning and turning in the widening gyre
The falcon cannot hear the falconer;
Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold;
Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world,
The blood-dinmed tide is loosed, and everywhere
The ceremony of innocence is drowned;
The best lack all conviction, while the worst
Are full of passionate intensity.

Surely some revelation is at hand;
Surely the Second Coming is at hand.
The Second Coming! Hardly are those words out
When a vast image out of *Spiritus Mundi*Troubles my sight: somewhere in sands of the desert
A shape with lion body and the head of a man,
A gaze blank and pitiless as the sun,
Is moving its slow thighs, while all about it
Reel shadows of the indignant desert birds.
The darkness drops again; but now I know
That twenty centuries of stony sleep
Were vexed to nightmare by a rocking cradle,
And what rough beast, its hour come round at last,
Slouches towards Bethlehem to be born?

# Sonnet 19: When I consider how my light is spent BY JOHN MILTON

When I consider how my light is spent,
Ere half my days, in this dark world and wide,
And that one Talent which is death to hide
Lodged with me useless, though my Soul more bent
To serve therewith my Maker, and present
My true account, lest he returning chide;
"Doth God exact day-labour, light denied?"
I fondly ask. But patience, to prevent
That murmur, soon replies, "God doth not need
Either man's work or his own gifts; who best
Bear his mild yoke, they serve him best. His state
Is Kingly. Thousands at his bidding speed
And post o'er Land and Ocean without rest:
They also serve who only stand and wait."

# DEATH IN THE DAWN

# BY WOLE SOYINKA

Traveller, you must set out At dawn. And wipe your feet upon The dog-nose wetness of earth.

Let sunrise quench your lamps, and watch Faint brush pricklings in the sky light Cottoned feet to break the early earthworm On the hoe. Now shadows stretch with sap Not twighlight's death and sad prostration

This soft kindling, soft receding breeds
Racing joys and apprehensions for
A naked day, burdened hulks retract,
Stoop to the mist in faceless throng
To wake the silent markets - swift, mute
Processions on grey byways...

On this
Counterpane, it was Sudden winter at the death
Of dawn's lone trumpeter, cascades
Of white feather-flakes, but it proved
A futile rite. Propition sped
Grimly on, before.
The right foot for joy, the left, dread
And the mother prayed, Child
May you never walk
When the road waits, famished.

Traveller you must set forth
At dawn.
I promise marvels of the holy hour
Presages as the white cock's flapped
Perverse impalement - as who would dare
The wrathful wings of man's Progression...

But such another Wraith! Brother,
Silenced in the startled hug of
Your invention — is theis mocked grimace
This closed contortion - I

#### Night Rain

## BY JOHN PEPPER CLARK

What time of night it is I do not know Except that like some fish Doped out of the deep I have bobbed up belly wise From stream of sleep And no cock crow It is drumming hard here And I suppose everywhere Droning with insistent ardour upon Our roof thatch and shed And through sheaves slit open To lightning and rafters I cannot quite make out over head Great water drops are dribbling Falling like orange and mango Fruits showered forth in the wind Or perhaps I should say so Much like beads I could in prayer tell Then on string as they break In wooden bowls and earthenware Mother is busy now deploying About our roomlet and floor Although, it is so bad I know her practiced step as She moves her bins, bags and vats Out of the run of water That like ants filing out of the wood Will scatter and gain possession Of the floor. Do no tremble then But, turn brothers, turn upon your side Of your loosening mats To where the others lie. We have drunk tonight of a spell Deeper than the owl's or bat's That wet of wings may not fly Bedraggled up on the iroko, they stand Emptied of hearts, and Therefore will not, stir, no, not Even at dawn for then They must scurry in to hide. So let us roll over our back And again roll to the beat Of drumming all over the land And under its ample soothing hand

Joined to that of the sea
We will settle to sleep of the innocent and free.

### <sub>THINGS</sub> FALL APART <sub>SONG</sub> BY KOFI KINAATA (MARTIN KING ARTHUR)

Friday Chapel all night, Saturday we are in the club
We are doing more things, amen, shocker is in the cup
The ship which brought the Bible
People say, is the same ship which brought Schnapp
So, the girls who came to the church service
Come and see, are the same who came to the club

So, is it God we are actually worshipping?

Ask your sibling and ask yourself

Is it God we are actually worshipping?

And you are running away because of Jehovah witness

So, is it God we are actually worshipping?

And you are attached to someone's husband like plaster

Is it God we are actually worshipping?

Take care of his house for him and you are killing him to claim ownership

The coming judgment day!

The day God will appear physically

If he doesn't consider, he might not get a single soul in Heaven

Because the truth exists but the Pastors have refused to tell them

Because of financial constraints, the poor are unable to come to church

For that is where things fall apart

When you express your discontent, they say, you touch not the anointed

The Churches have schools

Yet members are unable to attend

Job We are actually worshipping?

Drink but do not get drunk, and yet you are soaked with alcohol? (assay)

Imam, do not bother

Because what you are preaching against, they still drink it

When I look at Abu, he still drinks

Imam, do not bother

He said he's an American Muslim, he drinks everything

These people still drink

You can't differentiate between a Christian, a Muslim, the rest, the Pastor nor the fetish priest

Bribery and corruption, he's unable to fulfill the promises he made
MP, your hometown's in a deplorable state when it rains
Everyone says they are a bad person
As a result, the lecturer wants to sleep with you before he gives you a pass mark
For (the love of) money, we go shed blood
God will do it, it will take time, we can't wait; we want it fast, fast
So fast life, fast cars, fast track pot
We see "snapchat gods" during church service.
He will be in Church on 31st
He has surrendered to God, on the 3rd he backslides
hahaha part-time Christian

you want to fight full-time devil
you dey joke
So, it is God we are actually worshipping?
Is it God we are actually worshipping?
So, is it God we are actually worshipping?
Is it God we are actually worshipping?