Stealing:

* Likes to have control over own life and only way is to steal things.
* The word “I” represents his self and his expression that he feels.
* He is independent whether he likes it or not.
* Recognises what he’s like – too far in.
* Sort out his identity and issues.
* He wants to do/learn new things but can’t – Pity’s himself – loose ends
* It’s almost in the form of an interview
* Maybe talking to himself.
* Detached from his identity.

Hitcher – Simon Armitage:

* Someone moving
* Moving home, traveller, going somewhere
* Aggressive/sarcastic humour
* “stitch that” = swearing
* Lazy = someone asking for a lift
* Don’t have to rely on someone else – independent
* Telling someone to walk
* Colloquial language (local language/accent) – Informal words used in covosation
* Past tense
* Being in position of power
* Male character

My last Dutches:

* Iambic pentameter – soliloquy – dramatic monologue – actor to audience
* One character talking to another but the other quiet. One-sided convocation
* Speaker is male – Duke – previous or last or next
* Where’s wife?
* Duke is Italian – 1845 – wealthy – trying to impress someone
* Criminal? Anti-social individuals
* Showing someone round his house – showing a rich man round
* Ferrara – place in Italy
* 1st person – self-obsessed – control freak
* Controls who looks at painting
* Painting has a “sexual look” – painter likes her – He doesn’t get this look
* “she used to…” past
* She likes/appreciates everything – he doesn’t like this.

Laboratory:

* 1845
* Ancien Régime = (French) The Old Ways.
* “Hell has no fury like a woman scorned” William Congreve.
* “The mourning bride” 1697
* Grotesque
* Funny
* Violent
* Dramatic monologue
* Rhythm – Regular – AA BB – lively
* Characters excited
* Line 1and 2 rhyme and line 3 + 4 rhyme
* Anapaestic – Ways of describing the rhythm
* Subject is grim – melodramatic
* Mask = protection from gasses BUT hides identity
* Sweet poison – Oxymoron

Havisham:

* Looks ordinary (4 verse, 4 lines each)
* Fictional character – Mrs Havisham – Charles Dickinson
* Dramatic monologue
* “Bitter”
* She imagines her lover is there with her
* Sitting around remains of wedding dinner
* Written like a love poem but with a twist
* She’s obsessed with him
* Spinster – older woman who’s not married
* She has hope he’ll come back because she doesn’t take the dress off
* Oxymoron’s
* Murderous wish
* Denial – “I stink and I remember” Doesn’t want to forget
* Does recognise herself in the mirror
* Puce – violent colours
* Red – Death/anger/love/danger
* She wont leave the room – hints of violence
* “b-b-b-breaks” – Crying
* She’s very sad/upset.
* No rhythm
* Line run onto each other
* Tries to sound like normal speech
* Irregular
* Metaphors – colours
* Body parts mentioned
* Short sentences
* Vulnerable

Anne Hathaway:

* William Shakespeare’s wife – 1556 – 1625
* Point of view
* **14 line – Sonnets**
* **Addresses the subject of love**
* **Iambic pentameter**
* Dramatic action
* She adores him
* Relationship seems like his writing
* Inspirational – she was his inspiration
* She’s not as good as Shakespeare at Sonnets
* Suggests they were creative in love
* Bed is private world
* Sexual – erotic images
* Powerful metaphors
* She talks about writers techniques
* They made most beautiful poetry together
* Good bed 🡪 inferior verse
* No straight meaning
* She’s remembering him

Before you were mine:

* Love – close relationships – mother to daughter
* Written about how a mum used to be alone but then she gave birth to daughter

On my first sonne – Ben Johnson

* 1616 he didn’t usually write like this
* About death of a child – worthless
* Meditation – meaningless of life
* The boy, his son, was only 7 years old when he died
* Grief – high child mortality
* Epigram – short poem of remembrance – grief
* Contrast – sad, lost but also escape
* Life is bad – “fleshes rage”
* Talking to his son
* Bible illusions – Jesus – right hand of God
* He said he is responsible for the death – he loved him to much – sin
* God leant the son to him – payment is grief – day of judgement
* He doesn’t understand – why upset when they’re going to a better place – son doesn’t have to get old, see life’s horrors.
* Son is best piece of poetry/writing he ever created
* Excluding self from unconditional love
* Iambic pentameter
* He knows he should feel happy
* Memorial to dead child

Sonnet 130:

* 1609 – Shakespeare when published
* Sonnet – love poem – define beauty of someone
* Define beauty of what someone isn’t
* To his mistress
* 130 of 154 sonnets he wrote
* He’s realistic about her
* Dun = grey
* Mocking traditional love poems
* She is real – not exaggerated
* Alliteration “Goddess go”
* He swears by God
* 14 lines – Sonnet
* Iambic pentameter
* More beautiful than any other woman in any other poem
* Rhyming (A,B,A,B)
* Last two lines – rhyming couplet
* Goes with Anne Hathaway
* Anne Hathaway Could be a response

Homecoming:

* Memory, closeness
* About past and love
* Maybe talking about wife
* Puzzle – don’t know meaning – guess work
* Family
* Canary – Yellow jacket = wife wore as a child, important to her, he imagines himself as the Jacket, protection, support, trust, exercise, warmth,
* Alliteration and repetition
* Phrases used when talking to children
* Lots of colour – vivid – mood
* Blue murder – cold blood, police
* Red – anger, bull, temper
* Looks regular BUT is irregular
* “use” comes up a lot and “we” and “I”
* “I” makes it personal
* Before you were mine – link
* Someone stole her yellow jacket from and bullied her at school
* Trying to reassure her
* Think about past – make upset
* 1st verse – “trust me”
* 2nd verse – “memory”
* 3rd verse – “she runs away”
* 4th verse – “love – beautiful”
* 4th is most confusing
* Finds hard to talk to parents – reconciliation
* She fell out with mother
* Homecoming – “retrace the walk towards the garden gate”
* 4th verse – father + husband embracing her at the same time
* “it still fits” – mentally – coat, love of parents
* Personal experience
* Serious poem
* Short sentences (2nd verse)
* Wife may have lost memory but she can remember some things from a long time ago – like the coat – because its significant to her

November:

* Greif, age, loss of independence
* November of their life – ending
* Addressing to someone else
* Immune to pain – alcohol
* John – could be friend
* Harsh descriptions
* Twilight zone = metaphor = town at night
* November – ending of year
* They are scared
* “terror of dusk” – death – night – dark
* We let her go to this
* Words aren’t necessary
* Sun comes up for short time 🡪 positive

Solome:

* Dramatic monologue
* Character – Solome – King Herrods daughter – Bible – Name not used in Bible
* Solome – provocative, sexy, strong, dances, gets what she wants
* Talks modern
* Biblical illusion
* Head in the bed – God Father
* She got drunk
* Names are Jesus’s disciples
* Ellipses
* Similes
* Single word sentences
* Ending similar to “Hitcher”
* She speaks with a rhythm
* Modern woman, modern life
* Hangover – maid – dry toast
* Modern text – bring into modern context
* She vows to clean her act up
* Regulated patter – dialect
* Cold bitter woman who takes revenge
* Black humour
* Is she a serial killer?
* Similar to “Havisham”

Elvis’s twin sister:

* Dramatic monologue
* Slang
* Written by “twin sister” (Who didn’t exist)
* Opposite of Elvis’s life
* She is a modest, happy
* Speaks with speech of Elvis but she’s a nun
* Many references to Elvis
* Graceland – Elvis’s house where he died
* Some lines forced
* About fame, friendship and family

The song of the old mother:

* Universal = “the”
* Simple, direct, regular
* 1914 poem
* Monologue
* Rhyme
* Old woman moaning about young people
* Tells story of her day
* “seed of the fire” repeated
* Daily routine
* Contrast to young people
* She’s bitter about young people
* Works all day
* Rhyming couplets – Jaunty, lively
* Compare to “November” “Before you were mine” “My father thought it bloody queer” “The laboratory”
* Direct, familiar, Easy to understand.

My father thought it bloody queer:

* Work with “Mother any distance”
* Sons relationship with father
* Father disapproves with son – ear ring
* Looking back at young self – he’s 29 now
* Friends pierced it – t becomes infected
* “queer” old – adult unable to understand teenager
* Son is easily influences – dad is sarcastic
* He didn’t do it properly – mate did it for him – made a mess of it
* Free himself from fathers values
* “Breaking like a tear” – simile
* Italics is either his conscience or his dad
* Remembering dad – he is grown up now
* Short poem – convocational style
* Independence

Kid:

* Dramatic monologue
* Only one stanza
* Written by a character – Robin
* Bruce Wayne (Batman)
* Dickgrayson (Robin)
* Good defeats evil
* A “Holy” line from “Holy sardines”
* Gadgets – exploding, man eating shark, deadly disintegrator
* Transport – Bat boat, bat mobile, bat copter, bat submarine
* Villains – Joker, penguin, cat woman, rimler
* Robin moved on – bat man ditched him
* Rhyming
* Robin shows world what batman was really like
* Advantage of being super hero 🡪 learn truth – loose faith
* “I’m not playing ball boy again” 🡪 not doing it anymore
* “I’ve dropped that” 🡪 taken of the costume
* Batman is alone
* Robin adapted to real life, Batman hasn’t
* It’s about: Growing up; getting old; super heroes; role models; what happens when they let you down; dramatic monologue; close relationships.

Tichborne’s elegy:

* Elegy
* About man in tower of London – Tichborne – sentenced to death for treason – knew when he’s die – he wrote it himself on night before he was executed
* Entirely made of contrast
* Tichborne was 28 years old when he died
* Contrast where should be and where he is
* Executed September 19th 1586
* Wrote on September 18th 1586
* Private message to wife
* Links “on my first sonne”
* Each line two halves of a statement – contradicts it
* Antithesis of the second half of the sentence
* Biblical element – expect a good crop
* Metaphor for life
* Links with “Mother any distance”
* He looks for life but realises he’s a ghost (Shade = old name for ghost, often used by Shakespeare)
* Egg timer – less time than he though
* Iambic pentameter
* Rhymes AB, AB, CC
* Link with “Sonnet 130”

The man he killed:

* Direct speech
* Middle of conversation with someone
* Soldier – killed someone
* Universal
* Boar war – South Africa
* Personal tale – fictional character
* Any form of conflict
* Speaker tells about how he killed another man – If he didn’t kill him the other man would have killed him
* Both men similar
* Surface is simple – is very detailed
* Dorset dialect
* Speech marks
* “he” – narrated in first person – We’re listening into them
* 1st verse – narrator establishes common ground
* 2nd verse – kill each other – contrast to 1st
* 3rd verse – why he shot him
* 4th verse – He inlisted
* 5th verse – how weird/queer war is – ironic
* Hesitated – doubt
* Unconvincing – he didn’t want to kill him
* He was told to kill
* Ironic
* Dashes – not sure – pauses
* He’s poor – unemployed – had no choice
* “Quaint” no phrases he would use usually – general – big word, unusual