

Dragonfly Out in the Sun

I am a dragonfly
and I live on the breeze,
between the reeds and rushes
and the sun's soft fingers.

I am a dragonfly
and my wings are like water,
or as sharp as two swords
cutting the air into pieces.

I am a dragonfly
and my eyes are like glass,
as round as the moon
they see all that pass.

I am a dragonfly
and my body's a spear;
as sharp as an eagle
I hunt for my prey.

I am a dragonfly
and I float like a dancer
over the pond's still surface,
which reflects, like a mirror,
my miraculous presence.

Do you know how I feel?

1. Where does the dragonfly live?

2. Whose point of view is this poem written from?

3. What do you think the poet feels about dragonflies? Why do you think this?

4. In verse one, there are 3 examples of alliteration. Find and copy them. Can you describe the effect they have on verse one (what would the verse be like if the alliteration was missing)?

5. In the first verse, the poet uses personification to describe the sun. Can you explain what the poet does and how this makes you feel about the sun?

6. Throughout the poem much of the language conjures images of glinting and shining. Can you find examples of where the poet does this at different points?

7. What is the effect of the repeated line at the beginning of each verse? How does it help the reader move through the poem?

8. How many similes are there in this poem? Which is your favourite? Why?

9. Why do you think the poet uses the phrase 'my miraculous presence'?

10. Comment on why you think the poet ends the poem with the question: 'Do you know how I feel?' What impact does this have on the reader?
