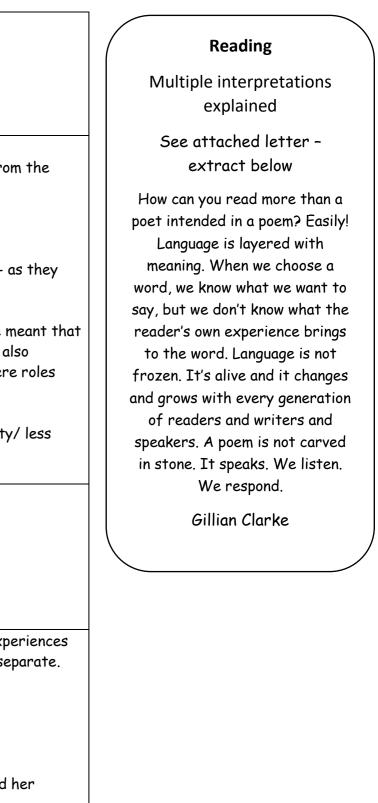
By the end of studying the poem 'Catrin' by Gillian Clarke I need to know;

Meaning: The poem explores Clarke's relationship with her daughter and explores the physical and emotional separation of a mother and child. Remember there may be multiple interpretations to the meaning of each poem. You must remember justify your interpretations.

Ideas: Autobiographical poem - Exploring individual experiences, memory, identity, internal conflict.

Vocabulary	Umbilical cord	
	Disinfected	
	Confrontation	
	Conflicted	
	Autobiographical	
	Multiple interpretation	
Context	Gillian Clarke was born in 1937, in Cardiff. Many of her poems reflect cultural identity and family relationships. 'Catrin' was published in 1997. Gillian Clarke.Gillian is proud of her cultural heritage and was awarded National Poet of Wales 2008 - 2016. See attached letter to students from webpage below.	
	http://www.gillianclarke.co.uk/gc2017/dear-students/	
	Quasi-autobiographical- Clarke is reflecting on the birth of her daughter; she also reflects upon the relationship between herself and Catrin- a both long for independence but are also kept close by the love they have for one another.	
	Views of motherhood- Clarke is writing in a society no longer reliant entirely upon gender norms- a greater number of women in the workplace m women were no longer defined by the role of 'mother'. This is evident in the poem through the persona's [Clarke] desire for independence. She als expresses her pride in Catrin- who, too, is growing up as independent. This increasing independence is worth contrasting with 'Cousin Kate', where and expectations of women are far more concrete.	
	Parental conflict-Clarke is also demonstrating the more adversarial conflicts between parent and child, reflecting the changing views of society, strict or heavy-handed parenting in comparison to earlier time periods.	
Themes	Internal conflict	
	• Love	
	• Tension	
	• Change	
	Relationships	
	 Loss of innocence, childhood, parental physical bond. 	
Deeper	A mother (Clarke) remembers in vivid detail when her daughter 'Catrin' was born. The 'violent struggle' of the birth to the conflict she later expe	
understanding	with her daughter , who now a teenager wants her independence. In both memories there is a sense that the mother and daughter want to be sep	
	Despite this, the mother knows their bond is too strong for them to ever be completely separated.	
	Tension is created through their conflicted feelings the warmth of a mother's love in conflict with the pain of giving birth.	
	Clarke is writing about the emotions associated with motherhood, and how mothers react as their children grow up and struggle for independence.	
	Independence and identity- Throughout the poem, Clarke expresses the conflict between the neverendingly love she has for her daughter and h	



Quotes	'first fierce confrontation' 'Red rope of love'	Links to other poems:
	'Wild, tender circles '	
	'I wrote all over the walls with my words' - physical pain of childbirth	This poem may be
	'our struggle to become separate'	compared with fractured
	'still I am fighting you off'	family relationships in
	'hearts pool'	Christina Rossetti's 'Cousin
	'trailing love and conflict'	Kate' or Jane Weir's
	'May you skate in the dark'	'Poppies'
		Treatment of women-
Terminology	Form – Free verse. No regular rhyming scheme as though the speaker is working through her thoughts and memories as they occur. However in stanza two	growing independence of
T ET MINIOLOGY	'Strong, long' 'hair glare' demonstrate a use of aggressive sounds in 'strong' and 'long,' - and later 'hair' and 'glare.' The rhyming of these aggressive sounds	Catrin in direct contrast to
	indicates 'Catrin's' strength and desire for independence.	the constraints placed upon
	Enjambment -Allows the flow of thoughts as most lines run on without being end - stopped.	the persona in 'Cousin
	Structure - Two stanzas. The break between the two representing time passing and the daughter growing up.	Kate'.
	Semantic field - Language about conflict - Challenging, Fierce confrontation, fighting, struggle. Language about love 'Red rope of love'	
	Metaphorical language - 'Red rope of love' physical attachment of the umbilical cord. 'hearts pool' - suggests a reservoir of love that the daughter could	
	draw from	
	Alliteration - First sentence 'window watching' 'first fierce conforntation'	
	Oxymoron - 'wild, tender'	
	Juxtaposition of 'love' and 'conflict' highlights the tension between the poems two key feelings.	
	Symbolism - Red is symbolic of love and passion but also blood and danger . Symbolic of their relationship. Loving but potentially destructive.	
	Use of personal pronouns - Although autobiographical the use of personal pronouns makes it relatable to any mother child relationship.	
	The second stanza is written in the present tense and deals with an incident in which 'Catrin' has asked to stay out skating 'in the dark', oblivious to the	
	dangers her mother anticipates.	