



St. Antony's Catholic College

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Year 9 English – SP & H

Instructions for the week beginning 27th April 2020

The poem 'My Last Duchess' by Robert Browning.

Watch

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=my+last+duchess&&view=detail&mid=452928AB3C8D14D2FAC0452928AB3C8D14D2FAC0&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Dmy%2Blast%2Bduchess%26FORM%3DHDRSC3>

What do you think the key images might represent? List and suggest.

Where is 'My Last Duchess' set and during what era? Why is this important?

Why is the poem so controversial? Why and how might it be based on real events?

What kind of society does this poem portray? How does this influence the poem?

Read

Research and **read about who Fra Pandolf** was and consider why he would be referenced in the poem.

Read the poem '**My Last Duchess**' and see if you can independently annotate it. Can you find writers methods such as language features, form, structure?

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/43768/my-last-duchess>

Tip! If this poem is a **dramatic monologue** whose point of view do we hear?

Can you find **imperative commands**? Why are the **rhetorical questions** so interesting? Consider the **tone** of them.

Listen to

Listen to and watch the Mr Bruff clip of 'My Last Duchess' and add any additional annotations to your poem following his guidance.

https://youtu.be/T9h_csKEwxg

Do Summarise in 50 words what the poem is about.

Choose a quote to show '**possession**' and a quote to show '**power**' and explain them both. Not the ones I have used below, choose different quotes.

The quote, "**My gift of a nine-hundred-years-old name/With anybody's gift**" refers to what? And why does he bring this up? How does the Duke feel about the last Duchess? Explain.

The quote, "**I gave commands; Then all smiles stopped together.**" What is he hinting at rather than telling directly? What effect might this have on the person the Duke is talking to? Does the Duke feel powerful?

Challenge:

What do you think Browning's message is? Can you consider linking it to the power/exploitation/romanticism/era