

Key Quotations

“No sign says it is: but we know where we belong.” (Nothing’s Changed—Tatamkhulu Afrika).

“The skin cracks like a pod. There never is enough water.” (Blessing—Imtiaz Dharker).

“Thank God the scorpion picked on me / And spared my children.” (Night of the Scorpion—Nissim Ezekiel).

Synonyms: sad

Melancholy: a feeling of deep sadness, typically with no obvious cause.

An air of melancholy surrounded him.

Sombre: A dull tone.

The night sky was sombre and starless.

Dismal: a mood of gloom or depression.

His dismal mood was not dispelled by finding the house empty.

Dejected: sad and depressed; dispirited.

She grew more and more dejected.

Poetic Techniques

Alliteration: The repetition of words beginning with the same letter.

Caesura: A break in a line of poetry - usually in the middle of a line.

Enjambment: The running-over of a sentence or phrase from one poetic line to the next.

Repetition: Repeating a word or phrase.

Onomatopoeia: Words that imitate sounds.

Rhyme: Use of words with a similar sound.

Ambitious Vocabulary

Incipient: Beginning to exist or appear.

Groggily: Staggering from exhaustion.

Municipal: Relating to a town or city.

Incantation: Chanting of words claiming to have magical powers.

Reverence: A feeling or attitude of deep respect tinged with awe.