Literature in English

This section continues our exploration of Literature in English, focusing on the art of literary appreciation.

SECTION E [LITERARY APPRECIATION]

Literary appreciation involves understanding and analyzing literary works to grasp their deeper meanings, artistic merits, and their impact on the reader.

- **Unseen Passages/Extracts from Drama, Prose and Poetry:**
    - The core of literary appreciation in examinations often involves analyzing unseen passages or extracts. This requires applying all the literary terms and principles you have learned.
    - **How to Approach Unseen Passages/Extracts:**
        1. **Read Carefully and Multiple Times:** Read the passage at least twice to grasp the literal meaning and overall impression.
        2. **Identify the Speaker/Narrator:** Who is speaking? What is their perspective or tone?
        3. **Understand the Context:** Even if unseen, try to infer the situation, setting, and what might be happening.
        4. **Identify Literary Devices:** Look for figures of speech (simile, metaphor, personification, etc.), sound devices (alliteration, assonance, onomatopoeia), imagery, symbolism, and irony. Explain their effect.
        5. **Analyze Diction (Word Choice):** Pay attention to specific words the author uses. Are they formal or informal? Evocative? What are their connotations?
        6. **Determine Mood and Tone:** What is the emotional atmosphere of the piece? What is the author/speaker's attitude?
        7. **Identify Theme/Message:** What is the central idea or message being conveyed? How is it developed through the text?
        8. **Analyze Structure and Form:** For poetry, consider stanza form, rhyme scheme, rhythm. For prose, consider sentence structure, paragraphing, and how the plot unfolds (even in an extract). For drama, consider dialogue, stage directions, and conflict.
        9. **Formulate a Coherent Response:** Organize your analysis logically, using specific examples (quotations) from the text to support your points.