

Name: _____ () Class: _____ Date: _____

*Your friend has sent you a link to a funny poem on the Internet. Read the poem.***Text 1 Poem****Beautify me**

① Flipping through magazine pages or channels on TV,
I'm bombarded with attractive faces looking so carefree.
They seem to exclaim, 'I'm superior to you!'
I longed to resemble them, I longed to be beautiful too.

5 ② I wish I had come into the world with a fair complexion,
But all I perceived in mirrors was imperfection.
My face appeared swollen and plump.
My stomach was a great big lump.

③ Lounging on the sofa was my chosen activity,
10 Munching on crisps and sipping soda with passivity.
Maybe if I had pushed myself to exercise every day,
I would not have to watch my health slowly decay.

④ I used to envy the lives of gorgeous stars,
But never once thought about trying the parallel bars.
15 Then I found a way to look better, a victimless crime.
Finally it was now my time to shine.

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5 Online I discovered a photo editing app.

It turned me into Prince Charming with a simple tap.

Never in my life had I looked so attractive,

20 And I could do it all while remaining completely inactive!

6 No more pimples, frizzy hair or double chin.

Thanks to this app, I have the smoothest skin.

My friends all like the photos on my social media feed.

Forget healthy food and exercise; this app is all I need!

25 7 I do wonder in the future what might happen,

If I'm out on the streets and have an unexpected run-in.

What if I bump into someone I know only online,

And I'm not recognized out in the cruel sunshine?



Challenging reading and comprehension

Unit 6

Name: _____ () Class: _____ Date: _____

Comprehension 1 Your friend wants to know what you think of the poem.
Answer her questions using information from the poem. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer and blacken ONE circle only.

- 1 What literary device is employed in 'I longed to resemble them, I longed to be beautiful too' (line 4)?

- 2 Find words in stanza 1 that mean the same as the following.

- i) overwhelmed _____
ii) untroubled _____
iii) shout _____

- 3 In stanza 2, 'I wish I had come into the world with a fair complexion, but all I perceived in mirrors was imperfection' is an example of _____.

A repetition

B exaggeration

C contrast

D onomatopoeia

A	B	C	D
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

- 4 Find two examples of rhyme in stanza 3.

i) _____

ii) _____

- 5 What are TWO reasons mentioned in stanza 3 for the poet's decaying health?
Answer in your own words.

i) _____

ii) _____

- 6 Decide whether the following statements are **True (T)**, **False (F)** or the information is **Not Given (NG)** in stanzas 2–3.

Statements	T	F	NG
i) The poet wishes that he was born with fair skin.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
ii) The poet thinks he is too thin.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
iii) The poet eats several bags of crisps each day.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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7 i) What does the poet describe as a 'victimless crime' (line 15)?

ii) Why does the poet use this expression?

8 How did the poet learn about the photo editing app?

9 In stanza 5, 'Never in my life had I looked so attractive' (line 19) is an example of

A alliteration

B exaggeration

C rhyme

D contrast

A	B	C	D
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

10 Who does the poet compare himself to in stanza 5? Why?

11 According to stanza 6, what are some ways that the photo editing app has improved the poet's selfies? Tick (✓) three boxes.

☐ clearer skin

☐ more muscular arms

☐ smoother hair

☐ whiter teeth

☐ a slimmer face

12 Why does the poet like the photo editing app?

13 According to stanza 7, what is the poet worried about? Why?

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14 Order the following events in the poem. Number the events (1–4).

The poet's friends 'liked' more of his photographs than usual. _____

The poet began posting edited photographs online. _____

The poet wanted to be fit and beautiful without exercising. _____

The poet downloaded a photo editing app. _____

15 The tone of the poem is _____.

A apprehensive

B somber

C passionate

D light-hearted

A	B	C	D
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

16 Which of the following is a suitable alternative title for the poem?

A Accepting myself

B The pressure to look good

C My personal app-earance

D Plastic surgery

A	B	C	D
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



17 Do you think it is harmful for people to use photo editing apps for their social media photos? Why or why not?
