

Te Kura

Here are two poems from Alexandrina and Isabella Godfrey-Grant, written for their Te Kura NCEA Level 1 English. They have been working on sustaining an extended metaphor throughout a piece of work. Extended metaphors allow writers to convey ideas or emotions in a more nuanced and imaginative manner, inviting the reader to explore multiple layers of meaning and engage with the text at a deeper level. Secondly, the students had to recreate their poems with rhythm.

PUNAKAIKI IN STORM

Alexandrina Godfrey-Grant



Tin rooves wail in agony,
Menacing bombardment roars above.
Howling winds do hurl,
Stealthy bullets through the mist.
Haughty clouds rise up,
Far too dark to join the fray.
Lightning bolts stab down.

Rocks are tugged in all directions,
Front line of the battlement.
Ocean tumbles furiously,
Tide-swell bombs the sand,
Pummelling the beach.

Scream and whistle of trees,
Leaves, the fallen as they churn away.
Enemies storm forward,
Snapping swords into Pohutukawa brittle.
Hordes lost, tumbling down,
Thunderous shadows roar.
Vulnerable the bach in terror quakes,
Hunkers down against the onslaught,
Ominous.

The Orchestra of Punakaiki

Isabella Godfrey-Grant



Waves that swell in serene symphony.
Seagulls soaring silently among,
Notes along the melody...
Chirping gleefully, cicadas join.
The cacophony accompanies the birds in song:
Wekas' calls resounding shrill and high,
Harmonising with the tuis' chorus,
Deep the thrum of kererus a-wing.

Ivy twirls with music, intertwined with joy.
Verdant forests whisper to the tune.
Dull percussion of pohutukawa leaves.
Raindrops patter rhythm on the roof of tin.
Footsteps tap, tap, tap a beat along the creaking sand.
Music rises in sublime crescendo...outside...

While, inside the little bach,

Heaters whirl...

Bunkbeds creak!

Children laugh.