

Half past two and
dear mr lee essay



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

I will focus on what happens in the poem. The experience of the child, the ignorance of the teachers and the author's craft.

To reflect upon the similarities and differences of the two poems. These two poems invite the reader to emphasize with the child; the child in both poems has had a not entirely positive experience at school. Because of a lack of understanding by the teacher. In "Half Past Two" the audience learns that the student did something wrong. As a result, he was put in detention and was instructed to remain "in the school room till half past two." The problem that occurs is that the teacher has forgotten to teach the child the time.

As the child waits and waits he feels as "escaped for ever" until the teacher finally remembers their mistake. Dear Mr Lee explains about the experience of an older student ("who used to hate English") this student had been converted by the novel he/she had studied, "Cider with Rossie" by Lorrie Lee. The student has taken the time to praise the book but criticizing the teacher claiming "he is his least favourite person" despite her obvious love for the book the student still rights "don't feel guilty for me failing my exams." Was it the teachers or student who was ultimately responsible? In analysing or reading, this poem it is clear the teacher must take some responsibility for their exam failure.

Mr Smart is clearly from legible and opinionated as an English teacher who "has to explain why they're jokes" and "says your view of the class struggle is naive." Rather than supporting the child, "dream of following in Lorrie Lees footsteps, Mr Smart claimed that for anyone with their punctuation to consider poetry as a career is enough to make the angels weep." The reader

is left with the impression the teacher has not encouraged students to reach their full potential. In Half Past Two, we admittedly discover that the child has got into trouble. However, the reader is not expected to believe this is a horrible child as the teacher totally forgot about him initially.

We are further expected to empathise with the child, as he is "too scared of being wicked to remind her that he cannot tell the time." We further get an insight into his immaturity when he uses personification when describing the clock with its "two long legs." This theme develops when the child appears to be daydreaming. He escaped forever in the air outside the window. The experience and feeling of the child are summed up in the poignant line when he escaped into the clock land forever. Clearly, this was a fantasy adventure for this child.

In Dear Mr. Lee the child is similar in that he is clearly not a high performing student. They remark to the author "please don't feel guilty for me failing the exams" The protagonist is extremely enthusiastic about the subject and despite the failure in the exams still remains excited by the book. The novel became part of his life almost like a friend. That explains the book had "lived with me stained with coke and kit Kat and I often take you to bed with me" The book seems to take on its own life. The Child's passion is also clear in the way they constantly restart their letter almost as if he contains their excitement. Even sentences blend into each other, when they state "It all times share villas and turtumolinos and how old were you when you became a poet?" The poem Mr Lee is written in the style of a letter whilst little figurative language is used the structure suggests this was written hastily.

Half Past Two uses childlike language to suggest its innocence; it begins “once upon a school time,” much in the style of a fair tale. Whilst numeric times aren’t used important times to the child such as “getting uptime and TV time” are personification is used to describe the clock and metaphors to explain he couldn’t “click its language”(explaining they cannot tell the time) which examples of onomatopoeia are used evident in “setting and “tick” all of which help to establish the child like atmosphere.