

English Department

HIGHER ENGLISH

Sunset Song : Illustrative Material for Critical Essays

Section/ Pages	Subject	Key Features	Key Techniques
Prelude 9-31 [1-24]	History of Kinraddie/ social survey of modern Kinraddie	Characterisation Narrative voice (folk narrator) Structure	Caricature/ satire/ parody Realism
Ploughing 40-42 [30-32]	Chris's conflict	Characterisation Narrative voice	Stream of consciousness Colloquial syntax
Drilling 72-3 [63-4]	Chris's reflection	Characterisation Narrative voice	Stream of consciousness Emotive imagery
Seed-Time 118-24 [111-7]	John Guthrie's funeral	Characterisation Narrative voice Structure	Stream of consciousness Climactic structure Sombre mood (pathetic fallacy) Descriptive spontaneity
Seed-Time 153-73 [150-66]	Chris & Ewan's wedding	Characterisation Action Structure	Varied pace & tone Vivid imagery (action & sound) First person narrative Informal register
Harvest 236-9 [233-5]	Chris is informed officially of Ewan's death	Characterisation	Psychological realism Emotive imagery
Harvest 239-43 [237-40]	Chris hears from Chae how Ewan died	Characterisation	Intimate setting Poignant tone Conversational style
Epilude 260-1 [255-6]	Minister's sermon at war memorial	Characterisation Structure Theme	Lyrical setting (pathetic fallacy) Formal register Rhetorical style Rustic imagery Controlled structure