

CHAPTER THREE

CONCLUSION

From the analysis of the themes of two poems by Andrew Marvell, namely To His Coy Mistress and The Definition of Love and two poems by Robert Browning, namely The Lost Mistress and The Last Ride Together, I find that both of the poets succeed in revealing the themes through certain literary devices, such as diction, similes, metaphors, repetitions, rhetorical questions and symbols. Moreover, there is one thing that the four poems have in common, namely that they are all concerned with love.

In revealing the theme of To His Coy Mistress that since time is limited, a couple who is in love should be able to conquer time, Marvell uses poetic diction, similes, metaphors, and repetitions. However, the poetic device that he uses mostly is poetic diction. As a matter of fact, everyone should be able to conquer time because we live in the world only for a short time. Frankly speaking, I do not agree that unmarried couple who is in love should have sexual intercourse, As an easterner, I am of the opinion that sexual intercourse before marriage is unacceptable and it should be forbidden although I agree that time seems to fly. Premarital sex is undoubtedly

against our standards of behaviour. Moreover, no religious teachings permit premarital sex. Even in today's more permissive society, which permits greater freedom of sexual behaviour, I do not agree to premarital sex.

In The Definition of Love, the poet conveys the theme that different social statuses make it impossible for two lovers to be united in marriage. The poet also mostly uses poetic diction to reveal the theme. I think the theme is realistic. We have often heard and seen that couples who are in love are prevented from getting married because of different social statuses. However, I personally think that in marriage, love is more important than social status. Although a couple has the same social statuses, they may not be happily united in marriage if they do not love each other.

In revealing the theme of The Lost Mistress, Browning also mostly uses poetic diction. The theme that when a couple's relationship dies, it does not mean their love and friendship should die as well is also revealed through repetition, symbols, metaphors, and rhetorical questions. I agree with the poet that a love relationship may be broken off and I also agree with him that when such a relationship is broken, we should maintain our friendship.

Like the other three poems, diction is the most significant poetic device that Browning uses to reveal the theme of The Last Ride Together. Rhetorical questions, metaphors and symbols also have their own roles in the revelation of the theme that one cannot always be together with the man or woman one loves. I do agree with the poet that we cannot always be together with the ones we love. There may be several things that separate us from the ones we love. Unfaithfulness, disputes, disharmony, monotony, and death may separate us from the ones we love although we do not

expect any of them to be the causes of our separation if we really have true love. In this poem, the poet does not explicitly mention why the man cannot be always together with the woman.

Finally, I should say that the four poems are worth reading and analysing. They have given me more knowledge and understanding about love and its different aspects. Commenting on the language, I believe that To His Coy Mistress is the most difficult but the most beautiful; the poet succeeds in combining humour and seriousness skilfully. The language that Marvell uses in The Definition of Love and the language in Browning's The Lost Mistress are also worth praising. The language that Browning uses in The Last Ride Together is far simpler but it does not mean that it is easier for me to analyse the theme of this particular poem because of the lack of references on this poem.