

Salome

The following questions are designed to help you explore the poem in detail. You must then present your findings to the class, not merely read the answers to the questions.

1. Explain the content of the poem.
2. Explore, with quotations, Salome's attitude to her life / current situation.
3. Look at the following quotations and comment on Salome's use of language:  
 "turf out the blighter"  
 "cut out the booze and the fags and the sex"  
 "ain't life a bitch"  
 "clean up my act"
4. How does the use of first person enhance our understanding of Salome's character?
5. How has Duffy created rhythm and pace in the poem?
6. What do you think Duffy is trying to say about men and women's relationships?
7. What do you think is the most striking line of the poem and why?
8. Share any other observations you have made about the poem.

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