

The poem *Motho ke motho ka batho* was written by Jeremy Cronin. The poem is about a person who is in prison. He was holding a mirror to see outside his cell. The reason I think it's a prison, it is because of the word used in the poem. Words like 'passage' in line seven can only be associated with prison because prison cells are in a form of passage. The mirror helped him to see what was happening outside the cell, he was able to see another prisoners and warder. In the poem I will be focussing on how the language device bring meaning to the poem.

The choice of word chosen by the writer to bring meaning words like 'hey! Wat maak jay daar' he wanted to remind us of the old days of apartheid and giving us the picture of what happened in prison. Another choice of word is 'A prisoner polishing door handles' he does not literally mean that there was polish to polish the handles but he meant that the rubbing of hands on the bar cells, was like polishing.

The types of imagery we find in the poem is the prisoner behind bars, and he is closely being watched by the warder. He is also giving us the picture of being in prison and not being able to be free because you are being watched. He's also giving us the image of a prison how people are treated and how prison feels like a passage.

Line one there is a rhythm the writer used long sentences to suggest weariness and sadness in the poem, giving the audience or the readers an indication that poem is very serious. Then again in stanza two the poet used short sentences and too much commas to slow down the pace of the poem, and to describe the events of the prison.

Simile is used in line seven to eight to compare the finger of the prisoners with a badge of a warder. Then again in line twelve to thirteen simile is also used to compare the long fingers of a prisoner to a long antennae

The poem is not structured in stanzas but in long sentences to show that the poet was explain the event of the situation he was in. there are no rhyming schemes to show the flow of the event.

The use of assonance in line eighteen and twenty 'maybe, later we can speak' is used to create a mood of speed in the poem. The poem them is giving us a message about prison life and how people suffered at prison.

In conclusion the poet had giving us the event of being inside the prison and that u can only see another prisons by mirror and that they spend their day holding their cell bars, that it end up looking like they are polishing it with their hand.

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