

***Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* BBC Documentary**

hosted by Simon Armitage

- _____ 1. Approximate age of the poem in years
- _____ 2. Length of the poem in lines
- _____ 3. Time poem opens
- _____ 4. Place poem opens
- _____ 5. Number of parts poem is divided into
- _____ 6. Green Knight carries this when he arrives at King Arthur's court
- _____ 7. Rhyming section at the end of each stanza
- _____ 8. Arthur's nephew
- _____ 9. Language of the poem
- _____ 10. Device that ties the whole poem together (the "warp and weft" of the poem)
- _____ 11. Consequence if Gawain hadn't kept his promise
- _____ 12. mysterious wild men of the woods in British mythology
- _____ 13. pagan fertility spirit
- _____ 14. name of river Gawain would have had to cross
- _____ 15. 7th-century woman who was decapitated but then restored
- _____ 16. spring at the site of Winifred's decapitation at Holywell is said to have this
- _____ 17. Lord of the castle where Gawain finds refuge
- _____ 18. The poet heightens scenes in the bedroom by interposing them with scenes of this
- _____ 19. process of taking out the insides of wild game, like deer
- _____ 20. Reason Gawain keeps the green sash or girdle
- _____ 21. A clue to the origin of the poem
- _____ 22. Some evidence suggests the unknown poet may have been one
- _____ 23. A possible site of the Green Chapel
- _____ 24. Number of times the Green Knight swings at Gawain
- _____ 25. The true identity of the Green Knight

Word Bank

Some choices may be used more than once. Some may not be used.

- a. 3
- b. 4
- c. 600
- d. 2,500
- e. Alliteration
- f. Bertilak
- g. Bob and wheel
- h. Camelot
- i. Christmas
- j. Dee
- k. Dialect
- l. Elvish
- m. Green Man
- n. Grollicking
- o. Healing powers
- p. Holly
- q. Hunting
- r. Jousting
- s. Middle English
- t. Lud's Church
- u. Monk
- v. Outcast
- w. Protection
- x. Sir Gawain
- y. Spring
- z. Stonehenge
- aa. Welsh
- bb. Winifred
- cc. Wodewose

As you watch the video, use the chart below to respond by recording at least three elements or information from the documentary in the left column and your response/thoughts to those elements in the right hand column.

Elements/Info from Video	Your response/thoughts

At the end of the documentary, Armitage says that the poem's greatness and longevity in part is due to our ability to "a bit of ourselves in Gawain." What "bit of [your]self" can you see in Gawain?"

Poem to Sir Gawain by Simon Armitage

Time now to rise, to strike out with a clenched heart
 And no map but the view from the peak
 Where the west wind plumes your cheeks,
 Leads with its granite fists.
 Days of rain, rain that permeates the bone
 Personal rain, persecuting the soul.
 Days when the promised lake
 Is a dishwater pond
 Run from a grey cloud onto a dead hill.
 Eat what the rook or crow leaves on its plate,
 Bed down where even the fox won't sleep.

'Til the way narrows and halts
 And you wait in armor or anorak under the ridge
 With a campfire tan and hedgerow hair
 And a god looks down, silent
 Stony-faced, bearded with living moss.
 This is the place.
 The journey over and the story told,
 The yarn at the end of its long green thread.
 Speak now, for all that you're worth,
 As the blade swoons in judgment
 Over your pretty head.