

Ròdhag, anns a' bhliadhna 2000

Catrìona NicGumaraid





Obair 1 Faigh a-mach

- Dè as aithne dhut mu Chatriona NicGumaraid?
- Faigh a-mach beagan mu deidhinn fhèin, a beatha agus a beachd-smuaintean.

What do you know about the poet, Catriona Montgomery? Find out what you can about herself; her life and common themes in her work. This may help you to better understand this poem (and other works of hers). Share what you find out with your class.



Obair 2

- Obraich còmhla ri caraid.
- Leugh a' bhàrdachd.
- Faodaidh tu èisteachd ris a' bhàrdachd air làrach-lìn *Ceumannan* 5 cuideachd.
- Coimhead air na faclan feumail.
- Bruidhinnibh ri chèile air cò mu dheidhinn a tha a' bhàrdachd.
- Bruidhinnibh mu ur beachdan còmhla ris a' chlas.

Work with a partner. Read through the poem a few times, using the Faclan Feumail to help you understand it. You can also listen to the poem on the *Ceumannan* website. Discuss with your partner what you think is happening in the poem and what it is about. Share your ideas with your class.

Ròdhag, anns a' bhliadhna 2000

Nuair a bheir an fheannag
 an t-sùil às a' chaora mu dheireadh,
 bidh mi ri dìdearachd air d' uinneagan:
 bidh iad an sin
 a' cluich chairtean
 's ag òl Beaujolais
poodle a' dannsa mun casan;
 bidh fhàileadh blàth a' bhainne air falbh às na bàthchannan,
 's iad làn thruinnsearan fuar cruaidh *pottery*
 airson an luchd-turais;
 fuaim nam brògan tacaideach nan samhlaichean
 a' coiseadh air monadh;
 na croitean uaine fàsail
 gun bhristeadh spaide.

Nuair a bheir an fheannag
 an t-sùil às a' chaora mu dheireadh,
 bidh mi ri farchluais
 air d' uinneagan,
 rid osagan ag ochanaich,
 's na guthan cruaidh Sasannach
 a' dol an aghaigh na gaoith.

Catriona NicGumaraid

Faclan Feumail

an fheannag	the crow	a' chaora	the sheep
mu dheireadh	last	fàsail	empty/desolate
dìdearachd	peeping	farchluais	eavesdropping
fhàileadh	smell, scent	osagan	breezes
bàthchannan	byres	ag ochanaich	sighing
làn thruinnsearan	full of plates	guthan	voices
cruaidh	hard	an aghaidh na gaoith	against the wind



Obair 3 Ceistean

- Freagair na ceistean a leanas.
- Bu chòir dhut fianais a thoirt bhon teacsa airson do fhreagairtean a dhaingneachadh mas urrainn dhut.
- Bruidhinn ris an tidsear agus an clas mu do fhreagairtean.

Answer the following questions. You should support your answers where possible with quotations or reference to the text. Share your thoughts and answers with your class when you have finished.

1. Identify the traditional Highland and non-traditional images in the poem.
2. Why do you think the poet uses italics for the words *poodle* and *pottery*?
3. How do you think the poet feels about the people that have come to live in Roag? Support your answer with reference to the text, if possible.
4. Which words or phrases in the poem suggest that the poet feels like an outsider in her own village? Explain your choice.
5.
 - a. The sheep and the crow are used as symbols in this poem. What do each of them represent?
 - b. Think about the nature of each of these beasts. Write down a list of words and/or statements you could use to describe them and how they behave. Examples have been given below to help you. Your teacher will collate everyone's ideas.

sheep	crow
white	black
gentle	predator

- c. How effective do you think the symbols of the crow and the sheep are? Why?



6. Consider the striking image below:
**“Nuair a bheir an fheannag
 an t-sùil às a’ chaora mu dheireadh,”**
 - a. Comment on the meaning and effect of the image.
 - b. Why do you think the poet repeats the image towards the end of the poem?
7. The poet uses contrasting images in the poem to highlight difference and change. Choose either of the following contrasts. Give examples from the text and comment on their use and effect.
 - warm/cold
 - hard/soft
8. How does the poem make you feel? Does it make you feel angry, sad, frustrated, indifferent, or something else? Explain why you feel the way you do.



Bruidhinn



Smaoinich

Obair 4 Smaoinich

- Obraich còmhla ri caraaid no mar chlas.
- Bruidhinn mu do bheachdan air na ceistean a leanas.

Work with a partner or as a class. Share your opinions on the following questions.

1.
 - a. Describe what you think the Roag community might have been like before it began to change.
 - b. Remembering that the poem was written in the seventies, describe the poet’s view of what the community was going to be like in 30 years time.
 - c. What do you think has started to happen that makes the poet foresee this future for Roag?
2.
 - a. How do you imagine the poet feels about the changes she foresees happening by the year 2000?
 - b. Why do you think she might feel this way?
3. Roag could be regarded as being representative of the Highlands and Islands in general. Considering this, and that the year 2000 has now long since passed, how accurate do you think the poet’s predictions turned out to be?





Obair 5 Cothrom smaoinichaidh, cothrom deasbaid

- Obraich ann am buidheann/mar chlas.
- Coimhead air an fhiosrachadh gu h-iseal.
- Tagh A no B.
- Dè do bheachd fhèin air a' ghnothach?
- Coimhead air na duilleagan 'Faclan feumail airson aiste bheachdail' airson cuideachadh.

Work in a group/as a class. Consider the information below. Choose A or B. What are your thoughts on the issue? Look at the 'Faclan feumail airson aiste bheachdail' pages for help with this.

- a. The theme of change is clearly a feature of the poem 'Ròdhag anns a' bhliadhna 2000AD' — something on which people may have differing opinions. Discuss the statement below. You may wish to make particular reference to the issues raised in the poem.

"Feumaidh sinn atharrachadh airson adhartas a dhèanamh."

- b. It may be said that the poem raises a valid yet fairly controversial issue that some may not consider to be politically correct. Discuss the statement below. You may wish to make particular reference to the issues raised in the poem.

"Bidh cuid de dhaoine ag ràdh nach eil saorsa-labhairt aig daoine mar a b' àbhaist."



Obair Adhartach

- Sgrìobh aiste bheachdail air aon de na cuspairean ann an Obair 5.
- Feuch gun sgrìobh thu mu 250 facal.
- Coimhead air na duilleagan 'Faclan feumail airson aiste bheachdail'.

Write a discursive essay on one of the statements from **Obair 5**. You should try to write around 250 words. Look at the 'Faclan feumail airson aiste bheachdail' pages for help with this.