



Lesson 1 Resource Sheet

The presentation of the hunchback

Learning Objective: To focus on the presentation of the hunchback in the poem

1. The hunchback is associated with language to do with dogs throughout the poem.

“Slept at night in a dog kennel
But nobody chained him up.”

The idea of the “chains” presented here suggests that he is metaphorically imprisoned by society. The knowledge that he is sleeping in a “kennel” shows that he isn’t treated/ doesn’t view himself as human.

“And the old dog sleeper
Alone between nurses and swans”

“Had followed the hunchback
To his kennel in the dark.”

What does the choice of language tell us about the way the hunchback is viewed by others?
Complete the two blank boxes above.

2. In the third stanza, there are two similes used about the hunchback. Complete the table with information about these similes. How do they present the hunchback’s relationship with the park?

Simile	Effect
	This is quite a bizarre simile. It makes it sound like the hunchback is part of the park and it sounds like he’s almost formed part of the landscape. It also links him to nature and natural imagery.
‘Like the birds he came early’	



The hunchback is presented as being quite a lonely figure. Make a note of all words/phrases in the poem which show this: