2. The pigeon by Richard Church

Identify:
1. sections
2. words
3. mood
4. speaker
5. audience
6. context
7. summary (literal)
8. techniques
9. images and concepts
10. theme statement

descriptive poem

Sections: first two stanzas about workers; 3rd stanza: crowd; 4th stanza: setting; last tree; pigeon

onomatopoeic sound: convey the idea where the action takes place

Mood: distaste for the industrialised world; violence....sweeter at the end; critical

Speaker: observer

audience: readers

context:
summary: there are some workers that are spreading concrete on the road when a pigeon comes and, frightened, goes away

techniques: onomatopoeic sound to give the idea of harsh impact on the environment.
personifications: machines are seen like human beings; they are compared to wild beats, to violent creatures (serpents; cruel mouths, prey)
alliteration: sweating straining: parallelism; --> hissing sound that conveys the idea of violence and is connected to the image of the serpent:
metaphors: head of the cables stands the serpents....; cruel mouths; curdled lakes;
images: serpent, mouth, dusty air (pollution which contaminates the environment) --> idea of polluted modern city,

PIGEON: nature, religious connotation: dove bringing peace among the clouds, even though it leaves, its print remains --> hope
pigeon: a moment of beauty in the ugly scene.

objective correlative - literary term referring to a symbolic article used to provide explicit, rather than implicit, access to traditionally inexplicable concepts as emotion or colour. (image that represents feelings and thoughts of the author.)

Theme: devastation of industrialisation nature prevails; seal: strong sign, mark

Commentary
He had used certain onomatopoeia like 'hiss' and another word I cannot remember right now (pretty drained from Philosophy HL paper 1). I played an important emphasis upon religious imagery also. How the construction workers are referred to as 'serpents' (this is also animalistic imagery), as well as how in the last stanza (I think it was the last stanza), Church utilised the phrase of a deflowered bed, symbolising a sort of funeral to the nature that once lived in that area. To me this was quite a
powerful poem, and the title was quite deceiving considering one would first think that a pigeon is to do with something peaceful, yet in the actual poem, it plays a minor role until it leaves the imprint within the concrete displaying the new world vs the old world. I also mentioned how the people stopped and watched the construction workers as they went about with their job, the fact that the people passing by were 'fascinated' by the workers could symbolise that they themselves were 'pigeon-brained' a common expression in the English Language for when someone is not very knowledgeable overall.