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| **Caged” by Geoffrey Goodfellow**at 38 his youth’s ……………over him like a roadmapand the ………. on his chesthas its claws dug in hardon herthere’s no ………. awaywings ………. by two kidsand the worry of that .38in the top drawer*all I can do is hug the kids**in ………. when he gets home*she sobs *I don’t think**he’d belt ……….*and its dewdrops on the ……….hayfever eyes for all seasonsthere’s no new ……….and no place far enough awayshe’s ……….to a life ofaspirins and empties -watches late night tattoossees HATE………..into both claws. |

flying clipped *tight THEM* nostrils tattooed horizons caged blueprinted eagle

**What is your initial reading of the poem? What gut feeling do you have about the poem’s meaning? Write a sentence in which you produce an interpretation of the poem’s meaning.**

**Three Level Guide – literal, inferential and thematic meaning**

Complete the Three Level Guide below **as an individual** then **compare responses in pairs.**

Be prepared to support responses to class through close references to the poem.

1. **Literal Meaning: Tick those statements which appear in the text. The statements may be worded differently, but they must have the same meaning. Be ready to explain your reasons.**
* The male is in his late thirties.
* The male has a caged bird tattooed on his chest.
* The male has an eagle tattooed on his knuckles.
* The female is not afraid of the male character.
* The female does not think the male will harm the children.
1. **Inferred meaning: Tick those statements which can be inferred from the text. That is, tick the statements which state what Goodfellow means. Be ready to justify your choices.**
* The male character is violent and abusive towards his partner.
* Alcohol helps to pacify the male’s rage.
* There is a tattoo of a woman on the man’s chest.
* The woman’s life resembles that of a caged bird.
* The woman fears the gun.
* The woman has no way to dull her pain.
* Children have no reason to fear domestic violence.
* A woman should be able to leave a violent marriage.
* The male belts his partner.
1. **Reading for themes/ideas/concepts. Tick those statements which you think Goodfellow would agree with. Use the text to justify your choices. The poem conveys the idea that:**
* Women are just as much to blame for domestic violence as men.
* Domestic violence within marriage is destructive.
* Lack of affection between men and women may lead to domestic violence.
* Domestic violence is abhorrent.
* Some men misuse their power within the family.
* There are harm filled consequences for women from ‘toxic masculinity’.

**Does this poem expose or conceal the misuse of patriarchal power?**

**What you are aiming to find is a reading or interpretation of the poem which is best supported by the text structures and language features of the text, an interpretation that you could base an entire essay on.**