

Pre-Industrial Poems

What was it like reading these Poems?

Difficult to read, layout and language were hard to understand
They were very long poems which caused the readers to re-read it

Was the vocabulary difficult to understand?

Not really difficult, a few words needed to be looked up

Duck's Poem

Describe the course of a year.

During the summer, people worked from 6 am to 6 pm. During the summer they made hay. During the fall they did the threshing.

What kind of tools did they use?

Sickle to cut wheat, rake to pile it, and a flail to remove grain from plants.

What was work like?

Repetitive, doing the same thing all day everyday. Work becomes a habit.

Were the peasants self-sufficient?

They grow their own food, and bought clothes with the money they make, but their houses were owned by their masters.

Collier's Poem

What was the life of women like?

They did the laundry, watched after the children, brewed beer, and cleaned pewter in addition to doing some of the same work as the men did. They worked during all waking hours, not just daylight.

How was this a response to Duck's poem?

Collier gives the perspective of a woman, and tells it like it is. She is not like Duck was. Duck made false claims about women.