1. Last night, without a sound,
   A ghost of a world lay down on a world,
   Trees like dream-wrecks
   corralled with increments of frost.
   (Alice Oswald)

   Write about silence in literature.

2. ‘The process of narrativization has come to be seen as a central form of human comprehension, of imposition of meaning and formal coherence on the chaos of events.’ (Linda Hutcheon)

   Write about some ways in which novelists have balanced coherence and chaos through the process of narrativization.

3. There is grammar in poetry. But is there, as Roman Jakobson suggests, poetry in grammar?

4. ‘In the middle of the journey of our life,
   I came to myself in a dark wood,
   for the straight way was lost.’
   (The beginning of Dante’s Divine Comedy, translated by Robert M. Durling)

   Write about great beginnings.

5. ‘Aeneas was about twice my age when we married. When I first saw his whole body, all muscle and sinew and bone and scar, I thought of the lean splendour of a wolf Almo and his brothers had caught and kept caged for a while before they killed it as a sacrifice to Mars.’ (Ursula le Guin, Lavinia)

   Why do we keep re-writing the classics?

6. ‘A whole is that which has a beginning, middle, and end.’ (Aristotle)

   Are all dramatic works ‘whole’?