



Ask the class to read this poem through. Ask them to think about which line they like the most, and to explain why to a partner. Bring the class back together and ask the pupils what they think Anjuma is saying to the people who bullied her.

Poem One: Anjuma from Azhar Academy 'I am worth more'

**My problem is not what comes out of your mouth,
Not the lies you live by.
I am not bothered by your perception of me,
Because I am worth more than this body you are quick to judge.
This outfit, my figure is a distorted shadow,
I have two countries growing within me.
I wear my religion like a halo around my head,
I glow like a firefly and blood flushes and brings life to my skin.
Your skin is dry – you cannot get to what you cannot touch in me,
You cannot make me echo grief that I do not share with you,
This body is my temple, and I have birds singing off key within me.
I didn't ask you to sing along,
Sing with me, or don't sing at all,
Love me, or don't love me at all.
But do not shout your bullet words at me as I walk away,
I am everything that has tried to silence me,
Bullets that I have caught between my teeth.
I have a dragon growing under my tongue,
A Phoenix in my heart.
Do not tell me I am not beautiful, your definition of beauty is sugar coated in lies,
I know this with all the cracks you've made in me, you have only brought more light into me.
Because I am worth more than this body you are quick to judge.**