

# Review of: "Mimicking Humanity: The Use of Anthropomorphism in Ted Hughes' Nature Poetry"

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The article "Mimicking Humanity: The Use of Anthropomorphism in Ted Hughes' Nature Poetry" is an interesting read and is targeted to topical area of representations on anthropomorphism. There are also some major challenges in it, and I have some suggestions that would improve the quality of manuscript and make it a firmer scholarly contribution.

First, instead of framing anthropomorphism as a mere "literary tool" and "literary technique", the broader and more profound meaning of the concept should be contemplated. The manuscript would also benefit from understanding and using current discussions and research on posthumanism and literature studies. For this, see for instance "Reconfiguring Human, Nonhuman and Posthuman in Literature and Culture", edited by Sanna Karkulehto, Aino-Kaisa Koistinen and Essi Varis and published in open access format by Routledge.

Even though the author states that Hughes poetry "blurs the boundaries between humans and animals", the article is often written in a way that posits humans as central figures above nature and animals. An example of this kind of writing: "In portraying animals as possessing human-like qualities, Hughes invites us to see them not as passive objects for human use, but as living beings with their own individuality and importance." Does representing animals with human-like qualities give them individuality and importance? Could they be important as themselves, instead of being important only if presented with human-like qualities?

Also, the structure of the piece is a bit problematic. This causes a lot of repetition to the text: the same poems are being addressed under several sub-headings. Could the author focus thematically on certain issues and deal with the poems under these themes once, but in more profound way? Now the poems are dealt with certain superficiality. The text would also benefit from direct quotes from the poems, so that the readers could follow the authors' argumentation and interpretation better. Additionally, I am not used to a research text in which there are no citations used, but this lack of citations can of course be a publication platform specific thing or a paradigmatic difference.

Good luck with working on this thought-provoking topic!