

When I read the title "A Consumer's Report" it made me think the poem would be a report about something. Maybe a questionnaire or review.

The poem is about a person reporting back to someone about a product called life. I think there is an extended metaphor though, & I think that what it really is, is a report on life itself & the complications & challenges it brings. The poem is written in 1st person and the message of it is that life has its good points & bad points but we shouldn't judge it until we've finished living it.

~~The~~ Peter Porter ~~describes~~ describes life to be bad towards the environment. ~~The~~ "It was not economical" & "The world got by for a thousand million years without this," are good examples of him thinking that humans

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have ~~be~~ wrecked the planet. I think Porter's attitude towards life is quite negative. This is because he writes about all these "Labels" which may be designer clothing. Then he goes on to talk about skin & how it comes in different colours & sizes. He says it's "waterproof but not heat resistant." I think this suggests that he's unhappy with his skin just being waterproof & wants more from it. When the poet writes "if you don't want it, then it's delivered ^{anyway} ~~anyway~~." I think he's talking about a Baby. This is ~~meaning~~ ~~the~~ showing that Porter doesn't like the way that ~~even~~ if you don't want something you get it anyway.

The poem only has one long stanza. This is because it's just one topic. The poet uses enjambement to break up the poem's structure to make it more understandable & give it a better Rhythm. An example of this is "It seemed gentle on the hands but left an embarrassing deposit behind."

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'on the life of man'

5b(i) Before I read the poem I thought it was about life from a man's perspective.

'A consumers report' is about a man giving his views on life and how it's up & down. 'on the life of man' is also about life & how they understand it. 'A consumers report' is a person which is an invented character. The message of the poem is that life has its up's & down's but at the end of the day we shouldn't judge it until we've lived all of it. 'on the life of man' compares life to a play and you have your big moment in the theatre & then the curtains draw when it's over & you die. I think this poem is the poet's voice.

In 'on the life of man' the poet has used caesura to break up the poem. This is shown when he writes "What is our life?" This suggests that the poem has regular rhythm ~~and the poet~~ isn't trying to ~~make it~~ look like a poem. However, the poet of 'A consumers report' hasn't used caesura but has used enjambement to break up the poem's structure, I think because of

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this, the poem looks a lot like an article.

'A consumers report' has an extended metaphor but 'On the life of man doesn't' When the poet writes "Heaven" in 'On the life of man' I think this is a metaphor & what the poet is actually talking about is the heavens in a theatre. This is the upper seating area. There is also some rhyme in 'On the life of man' an example of this is "be" & "comedy". This shows that the poem isn't sad & depressing & ~~the poet is~~ trying to keep it catchy to keep the reader reading. 'A consumers report' ~~also may~~ has no rhyme. This may suggest is serious.

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TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 30 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 50 MARKS