

English: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May

Read "The day the metals marched" by John Agard.

Some tricky words have been defined for you- highlight these and find some synonyms. (Remember a synonym is a word that means the same thing)

# The Day The Metals Marched

Out of the earth's crust they come,  
Out of the furnace they come  
after centuries of combustion.  
From every direction they come  
and they need no drum –  
these molten messengers  
marching, marching to the sound  
of their own names:

Aurum  
Argentum  
Cuprum  
Ferrum  
Staunum

All taking up position.  
All ready to stand as one,  
despite their different forms  
of lumps, blades, jewels, wires, rods.  
All in blinding splendour.  
Iron and Bronze rubbing shoulders.  
Gold and Silver mingling rays.  
Copper glinting next to Tin –

And on the day the metals marched  
Plumbum just couldn't wait to join in.  
Yes, old Plumbum, better known as Lead,  
though grey of hair and slow of foot,  
fell in line with –

Aurum  
Argentum  
Cuprum  
Ferrum  
Staunum

Meanwhile, the humans stayed indoors.

Word:	Definition:
Furnace	a heater, boiler.
Centuries	Hundreds of years.
Combustion	Burning something.
Molten	Melted into a liquid.
Splendour	Magnificent to look at.
Aurum Argentum Cuprum Ferrum Staunum	Names of the messengers.