I am the dreadful menace,

The one whose will is done.

The haunting chill upon your neck,

I am the conundrum.

I will summon armies,

Of wind and rain and snow.

I made the black cloud overhead.

The ice, like glass below.

Not you, or any other, can fathom what is nigh.

I will tell you when to jump.

And I’ll dictate how high.

The ones that came before you

Stood strong and tall and brave.

But I stole their dreams away.

Those dreams could not be saved.

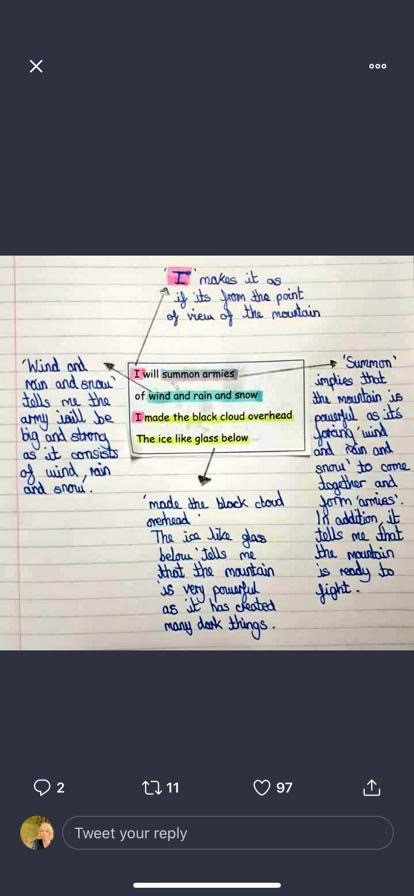
But now you stand before me.

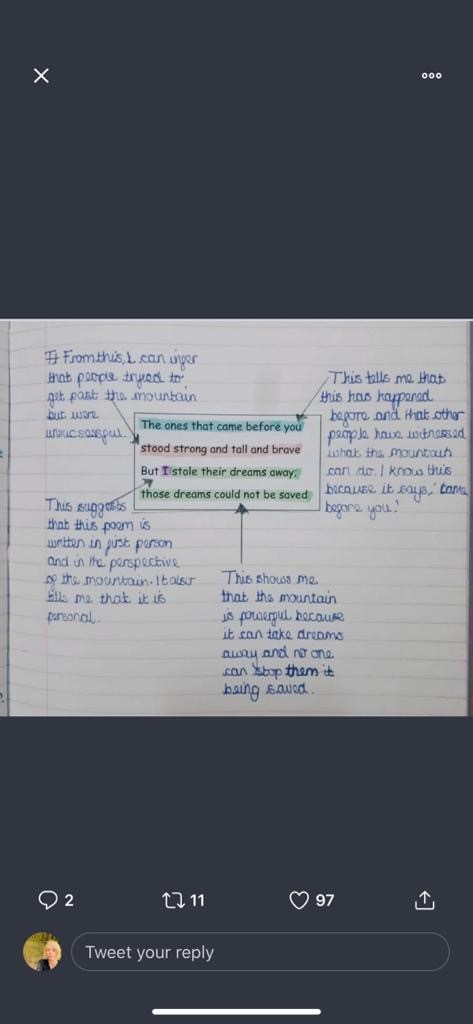
Devoid of all dismay.

Could it be?

Just maybe, I’ll let you have your day.

Here are some more examples of how you could annotate the poem:





**VIPER questions for session 4**

1) Which word is closest in meaning to **'dictate'**

**ask , command , deny**

2) What are the 'armies' that he can summon made of?

3) What does 'dismay' mean?

4) Thinking about who you see when you watch the video clip. What do you think the final line, 'Just maybe, I'll let you have your day' means?

5) Who do you think is speaking in this poem?