

In Satire 3 Juvenal describes the horrible life of the poor in Rome.

Repetition

nudum et frustra rogantem nemo cibo, nemo hospitio tectoque iuvabit

“Nobody will help him when he is naked begging for scraps of food, nobody will help him with hospitality and shelter.”

With this repetition of *nemo* (nobody) Juvenal is highlighting his distaste for the inhabitants of the city, saying that nobody, but nobody will help this poor man who is starving, has no clothes nor money nor shelter. The inhabitants are selfish.

1

Rhetorical Questions

Quid superest e corporibus? Quis membra? quis ossa invenit?

“What remains of the bodies? Who finds the limbs? Who finds the bones?”

This use of rhetorical questions makes the reader pause and think about the busy crowded streets and accidents. It speaks volumes when not saying a word. It tells the readers that the citizens are not going to put much effort into the burial of the dead that have perished in the crowd. It shows a lack of empathy from the crowd who could just as easily have died themselves.

2

Juvenal has used literary devices to show that the city is a heartless place where nobody cares about anyone else.

3