In “The Tables Turned” by William Wordsworth and “To David, About His Education” by Howard Nemerov, the poets reveal their attitudes toward education. In a well-organized essay discuss their similarities and differences. You may wish to consider style, tone, poetic devices, structure and imagery.

The Tables Turned
By William Wordsworth

Up! up! my friend, and quit your books;
Or surely you’ll grow double:
Up! up! my friend, and clear your looks;
Why all this toil and trouble?

The sun, above the mountain’s head,
A freshening luster mellow
Through all the long, green fields has spread,
His first sweet evening yellow.

Books! ’tis a dull and endless strife:
Come, hear the woodland linnet,
How sweet his music! on my life,
There’s more of wisdom in it.

And hark! how blithe the thrrostle sings!
He, too, is no mean preacher:
Come forth into the light of things,
Let Nature be your teacher.
She has a world of ready wealth,
Our minds and hearts to bless,—
Spontaneous wisdom breathed by health,
Truth breathed by cheerfulness.

One impulse from a vernal wood
May teach you more of man,
Of moral evil and of good,
Than all the sages can.

Sweet is the lore which Nature brings;
Our meddling intellect
Missshapes the beauteous form of things,—
We murder to dissect.

Enough of Science and of Art;
Close up those barren leaves;
Come forth, and bring with you a heart
That watches and receives.

To David, About His Education
By Howard Nemerov

The world is full of mostly invisible things,
And there is no way but putting the mind’s eye,
Or its nose, in a book, to find them out,
Things like the square root of Everest
Or how many times Byron goes to Texas,
Or whether the law of the excluded middle
Applies west of the Rockies. For these
And the like reasons, you have to go to school
And study books and listen to what you are told,
And sometimes try to remember. Though I don’t know
What you will do with the mean annual rainfall
On Plato’s Republic, or the calorie count
Of the Diet of Worms, such things are said to be
Good for you, and you will have to learn them
In order to become one of the grown ups
Who sees invisible things neither steadily nor whole,
But keeps gravely the grand confusion of the world
Under his hat, which is where it belongs,
And teaches small children to do this in turn.