

# Analysing Poetry



**Title**

**Poet**

**Date of Publication**

**Context**

Record brief notes about the historical context of the poem and authorial context of the poet

**Meaning of Title**

Why do you think the poet chose that title? Consider connotations of words and how it positions audience response.

**Themes & Ideas**

Consider how the poem explores a specific human experience. What ideas are conveyed to the reader about this topic?

# Tone & Mood

How would you describe the overall tone of the poem and the mood it creates?

# The Sounds of Words

Identify key examples of sound devices used in the poem such as alliteration, assonance, euphony, cacophony, onomatopoeia and repetition. Select some specific examples and explain their effect on the audience.

Technique	Example	Effect

Describe the rhyme scheme and rhythm of the poem. (Hint: count the syllables). Is it consistent? Why do you think it was chosen? How does it contribute to the mood or themes conveyed?

## The Meaning of Words

Identify key examples of other techniques such as simile, metaphor, personification, symbolism, word choice and connotation etc. Also consider other techniques such as paradox, oxymoron, euphemism, idiom, metonym or allusion. Select some specific examples and explain their effect on the audience.

Technique	Example	Effect

## The Arrangement of Words

What point of view is the poem written in? What effect does that have on meaning or audience positioning?

How many stanzas does the poem have? How many verses per stanza? Why do you think the poet chose to structure the poem like this? Does it conform to a traditional poetic form? If so, what is it?

## The Imagery of Words

Identify the types of sensory imagery evoked in the poem including visual, aural, olfactory, gustatory, tactile or kinaesthetic. Provide an example of each and consider their effect..

Type	Example	Effect

## Personal Response

What was your personal response to the poem? Did you like the poem? Why/why not?

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