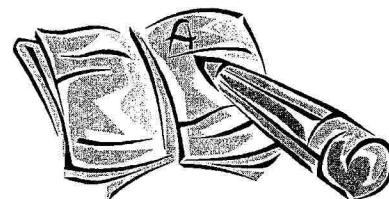


POETRY ANALYSIS

1. Read the title of the poem. What do you think it means?
2. Scan the poem for unknown words and define them in the margins.
3. Answer these questions in the margins of the poem:
 - a. Who/what is the subject of the poem?
 - b. Who is the speaker?
 - c. Is there a conflict in the poem? If so, what is it?
 - d. What is the setting of the poem?
 - e. What is the poet's attitude (identify positive and negative words)?
 - f. Does the poem refer to any other literary works?
 - g. What emotions (mood) does the poem evoke?
 - h. How does the poem shift from person to person, between different times or places, or in mood?
4. Poetic devices: Tools of the poet

Identify different poetic devices and how they convey the poem's message.

- Simile - comparison using like or as
- Metaphor - a direct comparison
- Personification - giving human qualities to nonhuman things
- Tone - what emotion does the speaker use as he talks
- Point of view - who is the telling the poem
- Imagery - creating pictures with words
- Alliteration - repeating the same letter sound



5. Theme- Identify the theme (central idea) of the poem. How does the theme convey the poem's message?
6. Historical and cultural context
Integrate the research you have done on your author into your poetry analysis. Explain how the author's history and culture have influenced the poem.
 - a. Think about important experiences that influenced the author:
 - b. Think about conditions in the author's country that influenced his/her life (poverty, political unrest, war, lack of opportunities, social constraints, etc.)