

TPCASTT

A method of poetry explication

You may use any poem for this activity – unless the poem was assigned of course

T-title: The meaning of the title without reference to the poem.

P-paraphrase: Put the poem, line by line, in your own words. DO NOT READ INTO THE

POEM. Not what the author means, but what the words say.

C-connotation: looking for deeper meaning. (You will not find necessarily find all of these, they are simply representative of what devices authors use to create hidden or masked meanings)

- Diction and symbolism
- Imagery
- Metaphors and similes
- Rhyme scheme
- End rhymes and internal rhymes
- End stop
- Enjambment
- Alliteration
- Assonance
- Consonance
- Mood
- Allusions
- Punctuation
- Personification

A-attitude: Looking for the author's tone. How is the writer speaking?

S-shifts: Looking for shifts in tone, action, and rhythm. Don't just write the number. Discuss how the shift(s) affect(s) the poem.

T-title: reevaluate the title as it pertains to the poem

T-theme: What does the poem mean? What is it saying? How does it relate to life? (100-150 word explanation)