

Elements of Voice

Analyze your chosen poem for those elements by answering the questions below. Continue in your writing journal if you need more space.

Point of View (POV)

How close or how far away from the action of poem?

- Which POV is your poem written in (first, second, or third person)?
- Did this POV influence your ability to connect with the poem?
- Why do you think the poet chose to write in this POV?

Tone

The overall feeling or mood a poem is trying to convey.

- What are 3-5 words you would use to describe the tone of this poem? (Examples: inspiring, honest, sarcastic, etc.)
- List 3-5 unique words or phrases from the poem that add to the poem's tone.

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Imagery and Sensory Language

Imagery is the picture the poet is painting. Sensory language contributes vivid language that brings the poem to life.

- Which of the 5 senses is most present in this poem, and why do you think that sense plays such an important role in the poem?

- List 3-5 vivid words or phrases that add to the imagery of the poem.

Syntax

The arrangement of words on the page, referring to the word order of a line or the collection of words in a stanza. Can also refer to grammar conventions, such as the placement of commas or periods.

- What do you notice about the syntax of this poem? Is there anything special or unique about it?

- How do you imagine this poem would be different if different syntactical choices were made? For example, if the poem was written in full sentences, how would the voice change if those sentences turned into fragments? (There's no wrong answer here, but looking at the poem differently might help you identify the voice.)

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How would you describe the voice of this poem? You can think about which component is the most prevalent or about how they all combine.

Questions and Appreciation

Use your observations from page 1 to develop at least one question you have for the poet and at least one piece of appreciation for their work. Space has been left for you to write more than one, if you'd like. Write your new sentences below.

Questions

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Appreciation

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