

POETRY TABLE

for discussing poetry with a focus on CRAFT & TECHNIQUE:

1: Typographical Level: FORM

- (couplets, tercets, quatrains, etc.)
- (free verse, prose poem, verse paragraphs, etc.)
- (lyric, elegy, ghazal, sonnet, etc.)

2: Sonic Level: RHYTHM & METER – rhythm, meter, scansion, cadence

- (accented/unaccented syllables, poetic feet [iambic, trochaic, etc.])
- (verse length: tetrameter, pentameter, etc.)
- (line-phrasing: caesuras, end-stops vs. enjambment, stepping, etc.)

3: Sonic Level: SENSE of SOUND – devices & effects

- (alliteration – assonance/consonance)
- (rhyme [slant rhyme, eye rhyme, no rhyme, etc.])
- (stanza construction, “music”)

4: Sensory Level: FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE – tenor & vehicle

- (imagery & description)
- (tropes: descriptive, similetic, metaphorical, rhetorical, traditional)
- (sensory & associative elements)
- (emotional resonance, verbal texture, & point of view)

5: Ideational Level: SUBJECT OF WORDS

- (syntax, grammar, schemas)
- (diction, voice, theme)
- (historical, political, and socio-cultural contexts that may affect meaning on multiple levels of interpretation; e.g. what events led to the poem’s creation?)

OR:

How it looks-

How it sounds-

How it feels-

What it means-