

1. Read poem aloud twice.

2. Identify the rhetorical stance (SOAPStone)

Speaker

Occasion

Audience

Purpose--is the purpose of the speaker the same as that of the author?

Subject

Tone

3. Identify literal level of meaning

- Paraphrase aloud
- Consider implication of title

4. Identify key examples of diction

- Look up unfamiliar words
- Consider sound (phonetic intensives, assonance, consonance, and alliteration)
- Consider rhyme and repetition
- Is the language euphonious or cacophonous?
- Identify ambiguous words or phrases
- Categorize the diction
- Check for allusions

5. Identify key details

- Identify sensory details--consider which senses they engage

6. Identify imagery

- Categorize the imagery
- Look for repetitions or extensions of images