

**Poetry Chart:** Poetry is challenging and requires the reader to actively engage to illicit meaning. Here is a chart to help you apply poetry concepts to analyze a poem:

<p><b>Paraphrase:</b> Put the poem into your own words to better understand it. Read the poem several times out loud before you try to summarize it.</p>	<p><b>Form and Style:</b> What form does the poem use? Formal? Free verse? Is the rhythm fast or slow? What is the style of the poem? Narrative? Confessional? Epic? How does the form and style shape the content?</p>	<p><b>Title:</b> What is revealed in the title? How does it connect to the content of the poem? Is the title referenced again in the poem? Does it connect to the poem's theme?</p>
<p><b>Speaker:</b> Who is the speaker? Is the speaker (or narrator) the same person as the author? How do we know? What are the speaker's concerns? Mood? What are the main traits of the speaker? Is the speaker interacting with anyone else in the poem?</p>	<p><b>Setting:</b> Is the setting described or made clear? Where does it take place? When? What time of day? What season? Is the historical, political or social context important?</p>	<p><b>Turning Points:</b> Are there turning points or moments of change? How does it begin? Is there a moment when the story, ideas, thoughts or descriptions change in order to get to the point at the end of the poem?</p>
<p><b>Tension:</b> What is the conflict or point of tension in the poem? Is there an external or internal conflict? Physical, spiritual, moral, philosophical, or social? How is the tension in that conflict developed with poetic elements? Is it resolved? If so, how?</p>	<p><b>Diction:</b> What can you learn by examining the particular word choices in the poem? Are certain sounds, words or phrases repeated? How is language used to evoke the senses? Set the tone? Is metaphor used? What imagery is present?</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Is there a mood or overarching aspect of the poem? Are there repeated patterns in the poem that work together? How do the parts of the poem contribute to a connecting theme?</p>