

TP-CASTT Graphic Organizer

T=TITLE

Speculate on what you think the poem might be about based upon the title.

P=PARAPHRASE

Paraphrase a poem; write in your own words exactly what happens in the poem.

C=CONNOTATION

Although this term usually refers solely to the emotional overtones of word choice, for this approach the term refers to any and all poetic devices, focusing on how such devices contribute to the meaning, the effect, or both of a poem. You may consider imagery, figures of speech (simile, metaphor, personification, symbolism, etc.), diction, point of view, and sound devices (alliteration, onomatopoeia, rhythm, and rhyme). Focus only on one poetic device or technique you do identify as having the most effect on the poem's meaning and discuss what that effect is.

A=ATTITUDE (TONE)

Having examined the poem's devices and clues closely, you are now ready to explore the attitudes that may be present in the poem. Examination of diction, images, and details suggests the speaker's attitude and contributes to understanding. You may refer to the list of words on tone that will help you. How would you describe the poem's attitude (tone) and how does this tone help to develop the poem's meaning?

D =

I =

D =

L =

S =

Adjective to describe tone?

S=SHIFTS

Identify the shifts in the poem and what in the poem is shifting' then discuss what it means or how it helps to develop meaning.

T=TITLE

Now look at the title again, but this time on an interpretive level. What new insight does the title provide in understanding the poem?

T=THEME

What is the poem saying about the human experience, motivation, or condition? What subject or subjects does the poem address? What do you learn about those subjects? What idea does the poet want you take away with you concerning these subjects? Remember that the theme of any work of literature is stated in a complete sentence.