**T-SMILE, it’s POETRY**

T.S.M.I.L.E is a good acronym to help you remember

what to look for when investigating poetry.

It stands for:

Title

Structure

Meaning

Imagery

Language

Effect

**T-TITLE**: **What is the title of the poem?**

What ideas/images come to mind when you see the title?

What double meanings could be present?

Predict what the poem will be about

**S – STRUCTURE: How is this poem organised?**

How many verses / stanzas?

How is the idea developed?

What words or phrases give the images or theme emphasis or clarity?

What is the structure?

Line length / rhyme scheme? Is there any rhythm / repetition / enjambment?

Why would the poet choose to use this structure? What meaning/effect does it convey?

**M – MEANING: What is the poem about?**

What is the poet discussing?

What is the THEME? What is the poet trying to tell you?

**I – IMAGERY: What pictures do you get in your mind when you read the poem?**

What poetic devices are present? What connotations are present?

What effect do they have on the poem? On the reader? Etc.
Why do you think the poet has included these images in the poem?

**L – LANGUAGE: What words has the poet used to create an image?**

Are there are complicated words?

Is the language simple to understand?

Which words and phases create the images?

How does the diction reflect the poet’s purpose? Mood/tone?

**E – EFFECT: What is the effect of the poem?**

What does the poem make you feel / think about?

What opinion does it show about the subject?

What is the poet trying to say about their subject?

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| **T-TITLE**: |
| **S – STRUCTURE:** |
| **M – MEANING:** |
| **I – IMAGERY:** |
| **L – LANGUAGE:** |
| **E – EFFECT:**  |

Context

1. Who was the poet? When was the poem written? What was happening in the world/what was the poet responding to?

Meaning

1. What is the theme of the poem?
2. Choose three supporting points to justify your argument.
3. What is the tone?
4. What is the point of view?
5. Choose one literary device that is present in the poem and develop a well written response to: discuss \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_as it relates to the poem.