

Poetry Close Reading Assessment

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Answer each question. Use complete sentences when an explanation is requested.

1. What is close reading?
2. Why annotate repeated images?
3. Why notice unusual syntax?
4. Why examine the first and last lines together?
5. What is a pattern break?
6. Why analyze a poem's form?
7. What is the role of textual evidence?
8. Why consider ambiguity?
9. How should a reader treat multiple plausible interpretations?
10. What is the final step after identifying a pattern?

Teacher Answer Key

1. Careful analysis of specific textual details and their effects
2. They may develop motifs, tone, or theme
3. Syntax can alter emphasis, pace, voice, and meaning
4. They may frame development or reveal change
5. A deliberate departure from an established pattern
6. Form shapes pacing, expectation, emphasis, and meaning
7. It grounds claims in the poem
8. Ambiguity can create layered or deliberately unresolved meaning
9. Evaluate each against textual evidence
10. Explain what the pattern contributes to meaning

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