

Poetry Writing Rubric & Self-Assessment

Name: _____ Date: _____

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

1. Does the poem communicate a focused idea or experience?
2. Are word choices specific and purposeful?
3. Does imagery contribute to the poem?
4. Are line breaks intentional?
5. Does sound support meaning?
6. Are figurative devices purposeful rather than decorative?
7. Does the structure fit the subject?
8. Has unnecessary language been removed?
9. Has the writer revised rather than only proofread?
10. Can the writer explain one deliberate craft choice?

Teacher Answer Key

1. Teacher/self-assessment: evidence should be visible in the poem
2. Look for precise nouns, verbs, and meaningful modifiers
3. Imagery should deepen experience or meaning
4. Line breaks should affect pace, emphasis, syntax, or shape
5. Sound should reinforce tone/rhythm/meaning
6. Devices should contribute to effect or insight
7. Form should serve the poem's purpose
8. Concise language generally strengthens poetry
9. Revision changes craft/meaning; proofreading fixes errors
10. Student explanation should connect choice to intended effect

This PoetrySoup assessment may be printed and used freely for classroom and educational purposes.