Using TPS-FASTT

For Poetry Analysis

**Directions:** Always read poems at least 3-4 times; annotate for the following elements.

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| **T** | Title | What do the words of the title suggest to you? What does the title tell you about the subject(s) of the poem? What connotations or associations do the words possess? | |
| **P** | Paraphrase | Translate the poem in your own words. What is this poem about? | |
| **S** | Speaker | Who is the narrator of this poem? Who do you imagine is “speaking” this poem? Why are they speaking this poem at this time? | |
| **F** | Figurative  Language | What meaning does the poem have beyond the literal meaning? Fill in the chart below: | |
| Imagery: | Simile/Metaphor |
| Personification: | Symbols or Allusions: |
| **A** | Attitude | What is the speaker’s attitude? How does the speaker feel about himself, about others, and about the subject? What is the author’s attitude? | |
| **S** | Shifts | Often a poem, like a story, has moments when the action shifts, the direction changes, the meaning alters. Look for transition words such as: But, Now, Although, etc. See if you can split the poem into two or three sections, based on meaning or form. | |
| **T** | Title | Reanalyze the title on an interpretive level. What part does the title play in the overall interpretation of the poem? | |
| **T** | Theme | List the subjects and the abstract ideas in the poem. Then determine the overall theme. What message is the author trying to convey? What lesson is being taught? The theme must be written in a complete sentence. | |