Dreyer ENG IV: Poetry

**The Art of Annotation**

Annotation is an art. It really is. When you annotate, you mark parts of the poem that stand out to you for a variety of reasons. These marks could focus on a single word or punctuation mark, a phrase, or a whole stanza. The most important thing you must remember when annotating is that ***you must make notes next to your marks***—that is what actually designates this activity as “annotating” and not just “marking.”

When annotating, make notes on the following:

**EXPERIENCE:**

**MEANING:**

**CRAFT:**

**Reminders:**

* Always look for tone in a poem. Find specific words and phrases that indicate this tone and note them,
* Always be on the lookout for any SHIFTS that occur in the poem. There is often at least one!
* Always pay attention to how the form of the poem may be MIRRORING the author’s intent. Writers are crafty like this!
* Don’t just identify a poetic device, make a note about its ***purpose*** or ***effect*** within the poem
* Try to answer the “SO WHAT?”. If you notice a metaphor or an allusion or repetition of an idea, word, phrase, etc., make a note on why the poet is using it in that specific spot in the poem.

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**POETIC TERMS**

**Narrative Poetry**: poetry that tells a story

**Repetition**: using any element of language more than once

**Parallel structure:** repetition of *structure* of sentence or words

**Refrain**: repeated line or group of lines

**Rhythm**: musical quality in language produced by repetition

**Enjambment:** the continuation of a sentence or clause over a line-break

**Point of View**: choice of narrator; determines type and amount of information the writer can reveal

**Lyric Poetry**: musical verse that expresses the observations and feelings of a single speaker

**Mood:** “atmosphere;” feeling created in the reader by a literary work

**Tone:** writer’s attitude toward audience or subject

**Imagery:** describes a person, place, or thing, by appealing to one or more of the five senses

**Free Verse:** poetry not written in a regular rhythmical pattern or meter

**Figurative Language:** writing or speech not meant to be interpreted literally

1. **Simile:** comparison of 2 unlike things using ‘like’ or ‘as’
2. **Metaphor:** comparison of 2 unlike things NOT using ‘like’ or ‘as’
3. **Personification:** giving human characteristics to non-human objects. EX: Daffodils dance
4. **Hyperbole:** exaggeration for effect
5. **Antithesis:** juxtaposes opposite ideas, heightens parallelism
6. **Apostrophe:** addresses subject of poet
7. **Symbol:** object standing for a concept, idea or emotion
8. **Allusion:** reference to someone or something else—common allusions: Biblical, historical, literary
9. **Connotation:** symbolic baggage attached to a word, significant, rich in imagery
10. **Denotation:** actual dictionary definition

**Musical Devices:** Devices that give rhythmic, metered patterns to poetry

1. **Alliteration:** repetition of consonant sounds at *the beginning of the word*
2. **Assonance:** repetition of vowel sounds *within words*
3. **Consonance**: repetition of consonant sound *within words*
4. **Onomatopoeia**: use of words that imitate sounds

**Stanza**: division of lines in a poem—stanza forms:

1. **Couplet:** 2 lines
2. **Quatrain**: 4 lines
3. **Meter:** rhythmical pattern; the regular repetition of stressed and unstressed syllables

**Rhyme**: similarity or likeness of sound existing between two words

1. **End rhyme**: occurs at the end of two or more lines of verse
2. **Internal rhyme**: occurs between two or more words in the same line of verse
3. **Rhyme Scheme**: pattern or sequence in which rhyme occurs (a, b, a, b)
4. **Slant rhyme**: a close, but not exact, rhyme EX: barn and yard
5. **Eye rhyme**: rhyme with words of similar spelling, but different sounds EX: lint and pint