

Analysis Questions

1. a) What method does the text use for its **attention getter**? b) **clincher**?
2. a) What are the **main points**?
b) **Describe structure** (how is text organized?)
3. a) What specific **claims** does the text make? (list 3-5)
b) Select strong **evidence** (details, images, quotes, examples, stories, personal experience, stats)
4. Favorite Quote?
5. a) **Analyze** rhetorical appeals: ethos, logos, pathos
b) **Analyze** rhetorical devices: parallelism, rhetorical ?s, repetition, allusion, figurative language: analogy, metaphor, simile, personification)
6. What is the **tone**? How do you know?
7. a) **Identify** text's **main argument** (thesis)?
b) **Evaluate**: On a scale of **1-10**, how effectively does the text achieve its purpose? Compared to other texts we've analyzed? Why?
8. a) What did the text/speaker **do best**?
b) What can the text/speaker **improve on**?

Poetry Explication

1. a) Before reading, consider the **title**. b) Read, then, **summarize** the poem. c) What kind of person is the speaker? d) Where and when does the poem take place?
2. Analyze the use of **diction**(3-5 individual words: P or N) in the poem, especially words with strong **connotative** (or emotional/psychological) meaning that suggest tone.
3. What is the overall **tone** of the poem? How is it revealed or developed?
4. Where are there **shifts in tone**? Why?
5. Notice and analyze any **imagery**(3-5) in the poem. (language that appeals to five senses) What is the relationship between images? Do the images form a unified pattern, or motif?
6. **Figurative language**: a) Notice examples of metaphors, extended metaphors, similes, personification, symbols, metonymy, allusions. Explain them. b) Notice any irony, understatement, or hyperbole.
7. Note the **form and style** of the poem: stanzas, syllables per line, # of lines, rhyme patterns, arrangements of words in a line, arrangement of lines on the page, line breaks, repetition of sounds or words.
8. What is the poem about **literally** and **figuratively**?
9. After reading, interpret the meaning of the **title**.
10. What is the **theme** of the poem—What generalization about life does it make?
11. **Favorite quote**? Why?
12. **Evaluate**: 1-10 and why

Concise Analysis

1. Main Argument (thesis)? (one sentence)
2. Main ideas?
3. Evidence?
4. Tone?
5. Rhetorical devices (ethos, logos, pathos)?
6. Organization/Structure?
7. How effective and why? 1-10

THE RHETORICAL TRIANGLE

AN OVERVIEW OF THE THREE RHETORICAL APPEALS

