

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the left and right sides of the frame, creating a modern, layered effect. The central area is a plain white space where the text is located.

TP-CASTT: Poetry Analysis

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What is it?

- ▶ It is an acronym for:
 - ▶ T = Title
 - ▶ P = Paraphrase
 - ▶ C = Connotation
 - ▶ A = Attitude/Tone
 - ▶ S = Shift
 - ▶ T = Title (Yes, again!)
 - ▶ T = Theme

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What is the point?

- ▶ The more often and the “deeper” you read a poem, you will understand more, appreciate more, and be able to communicate more thoroughly

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Vocabulary Review

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Vocabulary Review

- ▶ Literal - Means “exact” or “not exaggerated”
- ▶ Literal language is language that means *exactly* what is said. Most of the time, we use literal language.

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Vocabulary Review

- ▶ Figurative - Means opposite of literal language

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Vocabulary Review

- ▶ Figurative - Means opposite of literal language
- ▶ Figurative language is language that means more than what it says on the surface.

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Vocabulary Review

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Vocabulary Review

- ▶ Connotation - Meaning suggested by a word or phrase; Can be emotions associated with the word
- ▶ *Example: Home can mean safe, warm, and friendly.*



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▶ Step 1a: TITLE

- ▶ Read the title of the poem
- ▶ What predictions can you make just from the title?

▶ *Remember: Poetry interpretation is not wrong IF you prove it with evidence from the text.*

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▶ Step 1b:

- ▶ Read the poem carefully
- ▶ What are your initial thoughts about the poem?
- ▶ What might be the theme of the poem?

- ▶ *Remember: Poetry interpretation is not wrong IF you prove it with evidence from the text.*

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▶ Step 2: PARAPHRASE

▶ Explain the poem by describing what happens...

▶ IN YOUR OWN WORDS

▶ *Remember: Poetry interpretation is not wrong IF you prove it with evidence from the text.*

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▶ Step 3: CONNOTATION

- ▶ What might the poem mean beyond the literal level?
 - ▶ Find examples of imagery, metaphors, similes, symbolism, personification, etc.
 - ▶ Think about their connotative meanings.
 - ▶ Consider the emotions that the words may give the reader.
-
- ▶ *Remember: Poetry interpretation is not wrong IF you prove it with evidence from the text.*

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▶ Step 4: ATTITUDE/TONE

- ▶ Describe the tone of the poem.
 - ▶ Think about the poet's attitude towards the subject.
 - ▶ Find and list examples that illustrate the tone. Look for a pattern.
 - ▶ What led you to this conclusion?
- ▶ *Remember: Poetry interpretation is not wrong IF you prove it with evidence from the text.*

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▶ Step 5: SHIFT

- ▶ Is there a shift (change) in the tone of the speaker of the poem?
- ▶ Where in the poem does the shift occur?
- ▶ What tone does it shift *to*?
- ▶ *For example: Maybe the poem has an upbeat, joyous tone at the beginning but by the middle or end, the speaker begins to sound melancholy or angry. Imagine him/her reading the poem aloud.*
- ▶ *Remember: Poetry interpretation is not wrong IF you prove it with evidence from the text.*

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▶ Step 6: TITLE (AGAIN)

- ▶ Look at the title again.
- ▶ Have your original ideas about the poem changed?
How?
- ▶ What do you think it means now?

- ▶ *Remember: Poetry interpretation is not wrong IF you prove it with evidence from the text.*

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▶ Step 7: THEME

- ▶ What is the overall theme (“big picture idea”) of the poem?
- ▶ What insight, understanding, lesson, or truth are we supposed to have after reading this poem?
- ▶ *Remember: Poetry interpretation is not wrong IF you prove it with evidence from the text.*

THE END