

Sentence Stems for Poetic Commentary

The use of [Technique] creates _____
_____.

The [technique] used in lines _____ with the words “_____” and “_____” help emphasize
_____.

The idea of _____ is supported in lines _____
through the use of [technique].

Lines _____ can be interpreted to mean _____
because _____.

In lines _____, the speaker is asserting _____

In lines _____, the speaker is portrayed as _____ through the author’s use of
[technique].

In lines _____, the poem shifts from _____ to _____.

[Object] in line _____ symbolizes _____ because _____.

In lines _____, the effect of the metaphor comparing _____ to _____ is
_____.

The use of the word _____ in line _____ suggests _____.

In line _____, the author uses the image of _____ for the purpose of _____.

The words and details _____, _____, and _____ suggest a
_____ (adjective) attitude on the part of the author.

The main point of line/stanza _____ is to _____.

In line _____, the author represents _____ as _____ in order to
_____.

Example:

**I know there's something in the wake of your smile.
I get a notion from the look in your eyes, yea.
You've built a love but that love falls apart.
Your little piece of heaven turns too dark.**

The use of metaphor in line four comparing love to a “little piece of heaven” helps emphasize how wonderful and otherworldly the love is before it disintegrates, and is cast over by a mood of darkness.