

POETRY

	Originality	Creative & Poetic Expression	Overall Impact	Grammar, Usage, & Mechanics
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing is based on an original idea or uncommon theme. • Writing includes certain elements of originality. For example, the poem is in a unique voice, about a unique idea, or in a unique form or style. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing is expressive, including figurative language that engage the reader. • Poet demonstrates understanding of and uses a variety of poetic devices (alliteration, metaphor, simile, stanza, etc.). • Line length and line breaks have been considered and contribute to the poem. • Word choice is vivid and exact throughout. • If in a form (sonnet, haiku, etc.), the form is clear and meets the basic requirements of that form in rhyme scheme, meter, stanza length, etc. • If in a form requiring rhyme, rhymes are interesting, not predictable, and add to the overall effectiveness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The writing demonstrates awareness of audiences' needs. • The structure (length of stanzas and lines) and length of the poem work harmoniously with the content of the poem. • The poem enables the reader to see, hear, feel, or think about the subject in a new way or in a potent way. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is one or no errors in grammar, usage, or mechanics. • Punctuation is utilized appropriately or, if not used, is due to content or style choices, not errors.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing is based on an original idea OR includes certain elements of originality, though the voice, idea, or style may be underdeveloped. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing is expressive, including some figurative language and/or detailed description. • Poet demonstrates a fair understanding and use of a variety of poetic devices (alliteration, metaphor, simile, stanza, etc.). • Line lengths and line breaks have been considered and mostly contribute to the poem. • Most word choices are precise. • If in a form (sonnet, haiku, etc.), the form is clear and mostly meets the requirements of that form in rhyme scheme, meter, stanza length, etc. • If in a form requiring rhyme, many are interesting, though a few may be predictable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The writing demonstrates some awareness of the audience's needs. • The structure (length of stanzas and lines) and length of the poem work well with the content of the poem, though it may falter a bit in one area. • The poem enables the reader to see, hear, feel, or think about the subject. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are one or two distracting grammatical or word choice errors.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some evidence of original thought is present, but the writing is based on a common theme and does not include elements of originality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing includes some descriptive words and includes efforts at figurative language but needs improvement in order to engage the reader. • Poet uses limited poetic devices and/or does not demonstrate a broad understanding of their use in poetry. • Line length and/or line breaks seem rarely considered and do not contribute to the poem. • Word choices may be vague, repetitive, and/or imprecise. • If in a form (sonnet, haiku, etc.), the form is not clear because rhyme scheme, meter, stanza length, etc. are not consistent enough to establish the pattern. • If in a form requiring rhyme, many are cliché or predictable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The piece, while coherent, does not demonstrate an understanding of the audience's needs. • The structure (length of stanzas, lines) and length of the poem does not work well with the content of the poem. • The poem enables the reader to see, hear, feel, or think about the subject, but this is accomplished through clichés, worn-out images, or other predictable choices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are several distracting grammatical and/or word choice errors.
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The writing feels like a retelling and has a common theme. Poem may be repetitive or feel rushed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing is very simple and lacks the creative enhancements needed to engage the reader. • Poet uses no poetic devices or poet uses them ineffectively. • Line length and line breaks do not seem to have been considered. • Word choices are vague, repetitive, and imprecise. • If a form has been attempted (sonnet, haiku, etc.), the form is not clear because rhyme scheme, meter, stanza length, etc. seem random and/or rushed and do not establish any clear pattern. • If rhyme has been used, it is cliché, predictable, or seems to have occurred by accident. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The audience does not seem to have been considered. • The structure (length of stanzas and lines) and length of the poem does not at all work with the content of the poem. • The poem does not enable the reader to see, hear, feel, or think about the subject. No poetic devices are used. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to numerous grammatical and word choice errors, the writing is difficult to understand.

All criteria are adjusted in consideration of the writer's age group.

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