

Craft and Structure: Poetry Analysis Worksheet

Answer each of the following questions to the best of your ability.

1. The title of this poem is_____.

2. It was written by_____.

3. This poem is written in the _____(1st or 3rd) person point of view. How do you know?

4. Who is the speaker? How do you know?

5. What is the basic situation? Explain what's happening in the poem.

6. Describe the poem's setting.

7. Are there conflicts in the poem? If so, what are they?

8. What kind(s) of imagery do you see most in the poem? Give some examples.

9. Does your poem have a rhyme scheme? If so, what is it?

10. Identify Literary Devices included in the poem (ex. metaphor, simile, personification, hyperbole, Imagery, onomatopoeia, personification etc.)? Include examples. _____

11. Describe the mood(the feeling/emotions the writer creates for the reader) of this poem. Explain your answer.

12. Identify words which have a connotative (words that express how the poet is feeling) meaning which help to express the author's tone.

13. Describe the author's tone (his or her attitude toward the subject? What they think, feel, or believe).

14. Explain the significance/importance of the poem's title.

15. Write a paragraph in which you briefly summarize the poem.

16. Based on your analysis, what do you think is the author's purpose in writing this poem? That is, what universal truth/message/theme they want to share with readers?

The rocky ledge runs far into the sea A
And on its outer point some miles away B
The Lighthouse lifts its massive masonry A
A pillar of fire by night of cloud by day B

-
Even at this distance I can see the tides C
Upheaving break unheard along its base D
A speechless wrath that rises and subsides C
In the white lip and tremor of the face D

-
And as the evening darkens lo how bright E
Through the deep purple of the twilight air F
Beams forth the sudden radiance of its light E
With strange unearthly splendor in the glare F

-
Not one alone from each projecting cape G
And perilous reef along the ocean's verge H
Starts into life a dim gigantic shape G
Holding its lantern o'er the restless surge H

-
Like the great giant Christopher it stands I
Upon the brink of the tempestuous wave J
Wading far out among the rocks and sands I
The night o'ertaken mariner to save J

-
And the great ships sail outward and return K
Bending and bowing o'er the billowy swells L
And ever joyful as they see it burn K
They wave their silent welcomes and farewells L

-
They come forth from the darkness and their sails M
Gleam for a moment only in the blaze N

And eager faces as the light unveils M
Gaze at the tower and vanish while they gaze N

-

The mariner remembers when a child O
On his first voyage he saw it fade and sink P
And when returning from adventures wild O
He saw it rise again o'er ocean's brink P

-

Steadfast serene immovable the same Q
Year after year through all the silent night E
Burns on forevermore that quenchless flame Q
Shines on that inextinguishable light E

-

It sees the ocean to its bosom clasp R
The rocks and sea sand with the kiss of peace S
It sees the wild winds lift it in their grasp R
And hold it up and shake it like a fleece S

-

The startled waves leap over it the storm T
Smites it with all the scourges of the rain U
And steadily against its solid form T
Press the great shoulders of the hurricane U

-

The sea bird wheeling round it with the din V
Of wings and winds and solitary cries W
Blinded and maddened by the light within V
Dashes himself against the glare and dies W

-

A new Prometheus chained upon the rock X
Still grasping in his hand the fire of Jove J
It does not hear the cry nor heed the shock X
But hails the mariner with words of love J

-

'Sail on ' it says 'sail on ye stately ships Y
And with your floating bridge the ocean span Z
Be mine to guard this light from all eclipse Y
Be yours to bring man nearer unto man 'Z

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow