**TP-CASTT**

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| **Title:** | |
| **Author:** | |
| **T**itle: Make a prediction. What do you think the title means before you read the poem?  This is your step #1. Read the title and make a prediction (do not read ahead). |  |
| **P**araphrase: Translate the poem in your own words. What is the poem about? Rephrase difficult sections  word for word.  \*Do not interpret in this section; remember to just rephrase the poem in your own words. Break down the language of the poem into a language that is accessible to YOU! |  |
| **C**onnotation: Look beyond the literal meaning (that is, look beyond the dictionary definition) of key words and instead look at the associated meanings.  **C**onnotation: An idea or meaning suggested by or associated with a word or thing  For example: *Hollywood holds connotations of romance and glittering success.* |  |
| **A**ttitude: What is the author’s attitude towards the subject or audience?  What tone does the author use? Is it serious, satiric, mysterious, provocative, playful, cheerful etc.? |  |
| **S**hifts: Shifts = changes  What changes do you see in the poem and how they affect the poem’s meaning?  Where do the shifts in tone, setting, voice, etc., occur? Look for time and place, keywords,  punctuation, stanza divisions, changes in length or rhyme, and sentence structure. What is the purpose  of each shift? |  |
| **T**itle: Reexamine the title. What do you think it means now in the context of the poem?  2nd look at the title, revisit the title and now tell me what you think about its meaning. |  |
| **T**heme: Think of the literal and metaphorical layers of the poem. Then determine the overall theme.  The theme must be written in complete sentences. THE THEME IS NOT ONE WORD! |  |