**A Framework for Responding to Poetry**

**Introduction**

* Briefly introduce the title of the poem and the name of the poet
* Try to classify the type of poem it is. Ex. Sonnet, ballad, haiku, acrostic, shape, lyric, ode, limerick, elegy, dramatic monologue etc.
* Briefly explain the subject of the poem

**Point 1: Explore the Themes of the Poem**

* Try to group the ideas in the poem. Is there a story that the poem tells?
* What do you think the poem is about?

**Point 2: Imagery used to Express Themes**

* What are the pictures in the poem?
* Are metaphors/similes used to explain ideas?
* Are the five senses used to evoke certain reactions in the reader?

**Point 3: Form and Structure**

* How is the poem organized? Ex. Lines, verses, layout, shape
* Why has the poet decided to structure the ideas in this way? Ex. The sequence of ideas, length of lines, patterns etc.

**Point 4: Rhyme and Rhythm**

* How does the poem rhyme? Ex abab or aabb etc.
* What is the rhythm of the poem when read aloud?
* Why has the poet chosen this rhyme and rhythm to express these ideas?

**Point 5: Language Patterns**

* Think about the sound of the poem and choice of words
* The poet uses specific words because they have a certain association in the reader’s mind.
* Look out for alliteration, onomatopoeia, assonance, personification, symbolism, etc. How has the poet grouped words to achieve a desired effect?
* How effective are the devices? What do they create/do in the poem?

**Conclusion: Poet’s message**

* What is the poet trying to communicate to the reader?
* What is your response to the poem?