

Making Sense of Poetry

What is the focus or central features?	How are those features developed?	What is the result?
<p>STORY (narrative)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ People—the protagonist, narrator, characters, and relationship between them ★ Context—the setting (place and time), background information ★ Plot—conflicts, events, motives, outcomes <p>EMOTION (lyric)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ A universal human experience, situation, relationship, memory, or conflict (e.g. growing up, falling in love) ★ Images, moods, and emotions created about others, ourselves, situations, conflicts, etc. <p>IMAGERY (descriptive)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ An ordinary or particular object, situation, etc. told in a unique or special way ★ Mimicking something—an event, appearance, or sound ★ Images that recall sights, sounds, sensations, tastes, or smells ★ Rhythm and shape of the words on the page contributing to the focus (e.g. concrete poems) 	<p>LANGUAGE DEVICES (figures of speech)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Metaphor, simile, euphemism ★ Personification ★ Metonymy, synecdoche ★ Hyperbole, under/overstatement ★ Oxymoron, paradox ★ Apostrophe ★ Symbolism, allegory ★ Pun ★ Connotation/denotation ★ Allusion ★ Irony <p>SOUND DEVICES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Rhythm, rhyme, repetition, caesura ★ Mimicry ★ Euphony, cacophony ★ Onomatopoeia ★ Assonance, consonance, alliteration <p>STRUCTURAL DEVICES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Open or closed form? ★ Line and stanza breaks and formations ★ Repetition ★ Juxtaposition ★ Shape ★ Development of ideas and images ★ Through rules of the type of poem ★ The “gaps” or tension in a story, situation, description, image, etc. ★ To what degree does the reader fill in these gaps? 	<p>ENTERTAINMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Experience laughter, fear, suspense, surprise, escape, etc. <p>EMOTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Causes the reader to feel _____ <p>INTELLECT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Learning—to discover truth and ask essential questions about life and being human ★ Creating multiple levels of irony and meaning—the reader sees the complexity of human experience mirrored in the poem ★ Engaging the reader’s imagination ★ Experiencing or identifying with a character, a situation, or an emotion ★ Craftsmanship of language ★ Reforming an attitude, institution, individual, etc. ★ Giving explicit advice or teaching a moral lesson ★ Reflecting on matters of identity, purpose, beauty ★ Recalling a story or historical event