**METHOD FOR BREAKING DOWN POETRY**answer these questions on a separate sheet of paper

**Step 1.**

What is the title? How might they apply to the poem?

**Step 2.**Identify the following:

a. Subject (what is the poet writing about):

b. Occasion (what’s happening in the poem):

c. Audience (who is this poem being spoken to):

d. Purpose (why might they be writing this poem):

e. Speaker (who is the speaker):

**Step 3.**Images. What language in the poem gives you powerful images in your mind? What specific words are used to convey these images?

**Step 4.**Figures of Speech.  
Does the poem use similes, metaphors, or other types of figurative language? If so, what are they?

**Step 5.**  
Tone. What feeling do you associate with the poem? How is this related to the speaker or voice you identified in Step 2?­

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