



Poetry Analysis Essay Template

Introduction

- State the poem's title and poet
- Briefly describe the poem's situation or focus
- Present a clear thesis explaining how the poem creates meaning

Body Paragraph 1: Speaker and Situation

- Identify who is speaking and to whom
- Explain the poem's setting or moment
- Connect the speaker's perspective to the thesis

Body Paragraph 2: Language and Imagery

- Analyze keyword choices and phrases
- Discuss imagery, metaphors, or symbols
- Explain how these choices shape meaning

Body Paragraph 3: Sound and Rhythm

- Examine rhythm, meter, or pacing
- Note repetition, rhyme, or sound patterns
- Explain how sound influences tone or mood

Body Paragraph 4: Structure and Form

- Discuss stanza arrangement or line breaks
- Analyze form, including free verse if relevant
- Show how structure reinforces the poem's ideas

Conclusion

- Restate the thesis in fresh language
- Summarize the main analytical insights
- Reflect on the poem's overall meaning or impact