

	Originality 1-4 points	Creative Expression 1-4 points	Overall Impact 1-4 points	Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics 1-4 points
Distinguished (4 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing is based on an original idea or uncommon theme.</li> <li>• Writing includes certain elements of originality. For example, in a unique voice or unexpected element.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing is expressive, including figurative language and detailed descriptions that engage the reader.</li> <li>• Poet demonstrates understanding and uses a variety of poetic devices (alliteration, metaphor, simile, stanza, etc.).</li> <li>• Line length and line breaks have been considered and contribute to the poem.</li> <li>• Word choice is vivid and exact throughout.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The writing demonstrates awareness of audience’s needs.</li> <li>• The structure (length of stanzas and lines) and length of the poem work harmoniously with the content of the poem.</li> <li>• The poem enables the reader to see, hear, feel, or think about the subject in a new way or in a potent way.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is one or no errors in grammar, usage, or mechanics.</li> <li>• Punctuation is utilized appropriately or, if not used, is due to content/style choices, not errors.</li> </ul>
Proficient (3 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing is based on an original idea OR includes certain elements of originality, though 1-2 phrases or ideas may be underdeveloped.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing is expressive, including some figurative language and/or detailed description.</li> <li>• Poet demonstrates a fair understanding and use of a variety of poetic devices (alliteration, metaphor, simile, stanza, etc.).</li> <li>• Line lengths and line breaks have been considered and mostly contribute to the poem.</li> <li>• Most word choices are precise.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The writing demonstrates some awareness of the audience’s needs.</li> <li>• The structure (length of stanzas and lines) and length of the poem work well with the content of the poem, though it may falter a bit in one area.</li> <li>• The poem enables the reader to see, hear, feel, or think about the subject.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are one or two distracting grammatical or word choice errors.</li> </ul>
Apprentice (2 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some evidence of original thought is present, but the writing is based on a common theme and does not include elements of originality.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing includes some descriptive words and includes efforts at figurative language but needs improvement in order to engage the reader.</li> <li>• Poem uses limited poetic devices and/or does not demonstrate a broad understanding of their use in poetry.</li> <li>• Line length and/or line breaks seem rarely considered and do not contribute to the poem.</li> <li>• Word choices may be vague, repetitive, and/or imprecise.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The piece, while coherent, does not demonstrate an understanding of the audience’s needs.</li> <li>• The structure (length of stanzas and lines) and length of the poem does not work well with the content of the poem.</li> <li>• The poem enables the reader to see, hear, feel, or think about the subject, but this is accomplished through clichés, worn-out images, or other predictable choices.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are several distracting grammatical and/or word choice errors.</li> </ul>
Novice (1 point)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The writing feels like a retelling and has a common theme. Poem may be repetitive or feel rushed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing is very simple and lacks the creative enhancements needed to engage the reader.</li> <li>• Poem uses no poetic devices or poet uses them ineffectively.</li> <li>• Line length and line breaks do not seem to have been considered.</li> <li>• Word choices are vague, repetitive, and imprecise.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The audience does not seem to have been considered.</li> <li>• The structure (length of stanzas and lines) and length of the poem does not at all work with the content of the poem.</li> <li>• The poem does not enable the reader to see, hear, feel, or think about the subject. No poetic devices are used.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to numerous grammatical and word choice errors, the writing is difficult to understand.</li> </ul>