

# SLAM POEMS LIKE A PRO!

Step  
1

Read the title and the poem. CAREFULLY! Just read it!

Step  
2

Read the poem again! This time use SLAM to help you “unpack” or analyze the meaning of the poem. Annotate the poem underlining and circling phrases and code the margins with the SLAM letters. Don't forget to also include margin notes to record your thinking!

Step  
3

Finally, remember that some components of SLAM will be more important in one poem than another. Pay close attention to what is important in this poem.

<p><b>S</b>tructure</p>	<p>How are the <u>line breaks</u> structured?            How are the <u>stanzas</u> organized?            Is there <u>punctuation</u>? What does it look like?            How does the <u>structure</u> affect the meaning of the poem?</p>
<p><b>L</b>anguage</p>	<p>Is there <u>figurative language</u> present? (simile, metaphor, alliteration, hyperbole, onomatopoeia, personification)            Are there <u>sound devices</u> present? (rhythm, rhyme, repetition)            Is there <u>sensory language</u> in the poem?</p>
<p><b>A</b>ffect</p>	<p><u>Mood</u> - How does the poem make you feel? What emotions are evoked because of the language being used?  <u>Tone</u> - How does the author feel or want you to feel when you read the poem?</p>
<p><b>M</b>eaning</p>	<p>What is the <u>subject</u> of the poem? (What is the poem mainly about?)            Is there <u>symbolism</u>? What is the deeper meaning of the symbols used in the poem?            What is the central message or <u>theme</u> of the poem?            Why is the <b>title</b> important and how does it set the context of the poem?</p>