

Poetry Analysis Toolkit

Name and use poetic techniques, then analyse a stanza of Wordsworth and write a PEE paragraph.

Name _____ Date _____ Class _____

Learning objective: I can identify poetic techniques and explain their effect.

✓ I can name techniques ✓ I can explain effects ✓ I can write a PEE paragraph

1 Name the technique Match each technique to its example. All examples were written for this sheet.

1 simile	☐	A The playground was a battlefield at lunchtime.
2 metaphor	☐	B The fog crept in like a grey cat.
3 personification	☐	C Slippery stones slid down the slope.
4 alliteration	☐	D Down, down, down went the bucket into the well.
5 onomatopoeia	☐	E The old gate groaned as we pushed it.
6 repetition	☐	F The bacon sizzled and spat in the pan.

2 Write your own Write one line about a storm using each technique.

1 a simile

2 personification

3 alliteration

From 'I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud' by William Wordsworth (first stanza)

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Published in 1807 and revised in 1815; this is the 1815 text. The poem is out of copyright.

Poetry Analysis Toolkit

3 Analyse the poem

- 1 Find a simile in line 1. What does it suggest about how the speaker feels? [2 marks]

- 2 How does Wordsworth use personification in line 6? [2 marks]

- 3 Why might Wordsworth have chosen the words ‘crowd’ and ‘host’? [2 marks]

- 4 Work out the rhyme scheme of the stanza (e.g. AABB). [1 mark]

- 5 How does the mood change from lines 1–2 to lines 3–6? [2 marks]

4 Write a PEE paragraph

How does Wordsworth present nature in this stanza? Make a **point**, give **evidence** (a quotation) and **explain** the effect of the language. [6 marks]

Answer Key

Poetry Analysis Toolkit

Question	Answers
1 Name the technique	1 B; 2 A; 3 E; 4 C; 5 F; 6 D
2 Write your own	- Any line using 'like' or 'as' to compare, e.g. The thunder rolled like barrels down a hill. - Any line giving human qualities, e.g. The wind howled at the windows. - Any line with repeated starting sounds, e.g. Rain rattled the roof.
3 Analyse the poem	'lonely as a cloud' – he feels alone, drifting and detached, without purpose. - The daffodils are 'fluttering and dancing' like people, making them seem lively, joyful and full of energy. - They suggest a huge number of flowers and make them seem like company for the lonely speaker; 'host' can also suggest an army of angels – something heavenly. - ABABCC (cloud/crowd, hills/daffodils, trees/breeze) - From loneliness and drifting to sudden surprise and joy ('all at once') at the bright, lively daffodils.
4 Write a PEE paragraph	Look for: - Point: nature is joyful, lively and comforting - Evidence, e.g. 'golden daffodils', 'fluttering and dancing' - Explanation of word choices and effect on the reader/speaker

Teaching note: Wordsworth's poem is out of copyright. Accept PEEL/PEA or other analytical paragraph frameworks your school uses.