Poetry Explication Worksheet

1. Title of poem
2. Poet \_
3. Important background information on poet \_
4. Who is the **speaker**?
5. Who is the **audience**?
6. What is the **tone**?
7. What is the **setting**? (hour, season, century, etc.) \_
8. What is the **central purpose** of the poem?
9. Summarize the events of the poem/what event(s) are being described here?

a. \_



1. Discuss the **diction** (word choice) of the poem. Point out words that are particularly well chosen and explain why.


5. Discuss the **imagery**. What kinds of images are used? Explain.


9. Point out and explain any **symbols**.
10. Point out any examples of the following and give their significance:

# metaphor

1. **simile**
2. **personification**
3. **alliteration/assonance**
4. Point out and explain examples of
5. **hyperbole** (overstatement)
6. **irony** \_

# allusion

1. State the form or pattern of the poem (line length—in syllables, stanza length, number of stanzas, etc.)

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1. Write the **refrain**, if any, on the lines below.
2. **Evaluate** the poem. Explain the poem’s **theme** and explain how the poem communicated its central idea or theme.