

A close reading or analysis of a short poem can contain the following elements. See *Elements of Literature* section entitled “The Elements of Poetry” (365-400)

Form (narrative; dramatic; descriptive; meditative) **style** (such as sentence structure, capitalization and punctuation, repetition, word order, caesura and enjambment); **rhythm**, **scansion of a sample line**, and **rhythmic variation; rhyme scheme**

Point of view (first person or third person), **speaker** (outside or inside the poem, or both), and **setting** (including a few **literal images**)

Situation, other **characters** (if any); development of theme—going through each section of the poem—through **literal** and **figurative images** such as simile, metaphor, conceit, symbol, animation and personification and allusion—going through each section of the poem.

Tone (constant or changing—implied attitude of poet to subject)

Theme (Theme is going to be some idea about some aspect of human nature, the relationship between humans, humans and nature, or society, or some individual social or psychological idea or truth, etc. Example-- “We value love more when we are acutely conscious that we may some day lose it.”)