


How to Annotate Poetry

1. Read the text once all the way through.
2. Circle words you don't know. (Label with a ?)
3. Underline any instances of figurative language and label them. 
Complete EVERYTHING in this SMILES box, then go to Step 4!
4. Write any questions you have in the margins.
5. Underline any part of the text that gives clues about the theme.

S.M.I.L.E.S.

Similes

- Label any comparisons using "like" or "as" with an S.

Metaphors

- Label any comparisons that DO NOT use "like" or "as" with an M.

Imagery

- Do certain sections of the text paint a picture in your mind? If something sparks your imagination, label it with "I".

Locate the pronouns and nouns

- Circle these important words that give clues about the poem's topic.

Effects of the poet's voice

- Write about EACH of these in the margin!

MOOD: How the poem makes you feel

TONE: The author's attitude about the topic

Sequence of events

- In the margin, summarize (2-3 sentences) about what happens in the poem.