Poetry Study

Denotation and Connotation

And

Reading Poetry
August 24th

• Daily Description: Describe eating your favorite meal.

• Agenda:
  • Daily Description
  • Introduction to Class Craft
  • Poetry I Love
  • Denotation and Connotation
  • Reading Poetry
Classcraft.com
Work with your team to choose:

- Team Name
- Background
- Crest
- Roles for each member

- See me when your group has decided the above.
Denotation vs. Connotation

• Denotation – the explicit meaning of a word or words

• Connotation – the associated or secondary meaning of a word or words
There is no Frigate like a Book

There is no Frigate like a Book
To take us Lands away
Nor any Coursers like a Page
Of prancing Poetry –
This Traverse may the poorest take
Without oppress of Toll –
How frugal is the Chariot
That bears the Human soul.
• Frigate vs. cruise ship
• Courser vs. horse
• Chariot vs. bus
There is no Cruise Ship like a Book
To take us Lands away
Nor any Horses like a Page
Of prancing Poetry –
This Traverse may the poorest take
Without oppress of Toll –
How frugal is the Bus
That bears the Human soul.
Words with multiple Denotations

- Spring
- Lie
- Face
- Front
Where should the number 9 be placed to complete the sequence below?

8, 5, 4, 1, 7, 6, 3, 2
Think outside the box

Answer to #1:
8, 5, 4, 9, 1, 7, 6, 3, 2

Between the 4 and the 1; the numbers are in alphabetical order
Reading a Poem

1. Read a poem more than once.
2. Use a dictionary to understand terms.
3. Read so you hear the sounds of the words in your mind.
4. Pay careful attention to what the poem is saying (not just to how it sounds).
5. Practice reading poems out loud.
Tools for Reading Poetry: Meaning

• As you read poetry, consider:
  • The What – the main subject
  • The How – what poetic techniques is the poet using to address his subject?
  • The Significance (or So What) – How do these techniques affect the reader’s understanding of the poem’s meaning? What do these techniques tell the reader about the poem’s feelings (tone) and ideas (theme)?
Read “Still, Citizen Sparrow” (pages 126-127)

• Write down your hunch about the poem’s meaning.
• Make a list of words or phrases in the poem that led you to that hunch.
• Explain why each of the above words or phrases led to your initial hunch.
• Explain how other features in the poem led to your hunch.
• Answer the questions on page 158.
• Revise your hunch (if needed) and restate the poem’s meaning.
Tools for Reading Poetry: Voice and Speaker

• To help figure out the voice of a poem, read the poem out loud.

• Consider the context of the poem: Who? What? When? Where? With whom or what?

• Who is speaking to whom? Where is the speaker? Does the poem give hints about the speaker’s age, situation, feelings, etc.?

• Remember that the speaker is not necessarily the poet.
Read “Fifteen” (page 270)

- Where was the speaker at the time of the story?
- What did he see besides a motorcycle?
- How did he feel about the motorcycle at first? How did his feelings change and why?
- Which words and images help you to hear the speaker’s tone of voice? Describe that tone.
- How would you describe the point of view or voice of the speaker?
Let’s Practice

• Annabel Lee (29-30)
• The Snow-Storm (41)
• The Eagle (42)
• Composed Upon Westminster Bridge (58)
• Ozymandias (64)
• Little Boy Blue (83)