

USING VOICE, TONE, & EXPERIENCE IN POETRY

HOW DOES THE POEM MEAN?

ELEMENTS OF VOICE

- ▶ Diction
- ▶ Syntax
- ▶ Levels of Language
- ▶ Point of View

HOW DO WE BUILD VOICE IN POETRY?

- ▶ Speech Rhythms
- ▶ Mannerism
- ▶ Verb Choice
- ▶ Distance

VOICE PROMPT:

- ▶ **PICK A PRIZED POSSESSION**
- ▶ **DESCRIBE IT IN DETAIL AS YOU WOULD IN A TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION OR ON AN INSURANCE DOCUMENT**
- ▶ **WRITE A POEM ABOUT THIS THING TO ME AS IF I'M SITTING ACROSS FROM YOU AS YOU ARE SPEAKING TO ME ABOUT THIS THING**

TONE:

THE WRITER'S ATTITUDE TOWARD

THE MATERIAL

ELEMENTS OF TONE

- ▶ WORD CHOICE
- ▶ DICTION
- ▶ ENERGY
- ▶ DISTANCE
- ▶ URGENCY
- ▶ MODULATION

TONE PROMPT:

- ▶ **WRITE A CLEAR, FIRST PERSON LIST OF THE STEPS IT TOOK TO MAKE BREAKFAST THIS MORNING**
- ▶ **PUT THAT LIST IN PARAGRAPH FORM**
- ▶ **CHANGE ALL THE VERBS/ADVERBS TO POSITIVE ONES TO REFLECT A HAPPY MORNING**
- ▶ **CHANGE THE VERBS/ADVERBS AGAIN TO REFLECT A RUSHED MORNING WHERE YOU'RE RUNNING LATE**
- ▶ **CHANGE THE VERBS/ADVERBS ONE LAST TIME TO REFLECT AN ARGUMENT IS TAKING PLACE WHILE BREAKFAST IS MADE**

EXPERIENCE:

PERSONAL NARRATIVE=METONYMY

ELEMENTS OF EXPERIENCE

- ▶ **ACTION/EVENTS/TIME**
- ▶ **PERSPECTIVE**
- ▶ **MORAL**
- ▶ **GROWTH**
- ▶ **COMMUNITY**

EXPERIENCE PROMPT:

- ▶ **CHOOSE AN EVENT FROM GRADE SCHOOL THAT STICKS WITH YOU OR COMES TO MIND NOW**
- ▶ **WRITE A QUICK PARAGRAPH DETAILING THE EVENT**
- ▶ **CHOOSE AN EVENT FROM THIS WEEK THAT COMES TO MIND NOW**
- ▶ **WRITE A QUICK PARAGRAPH DESCRIBING IT**
- ▶ **USING BOTH EXPERIENCES, WRITE A SHORT POEM SEARCHING FOR CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE TWO**

Q&A