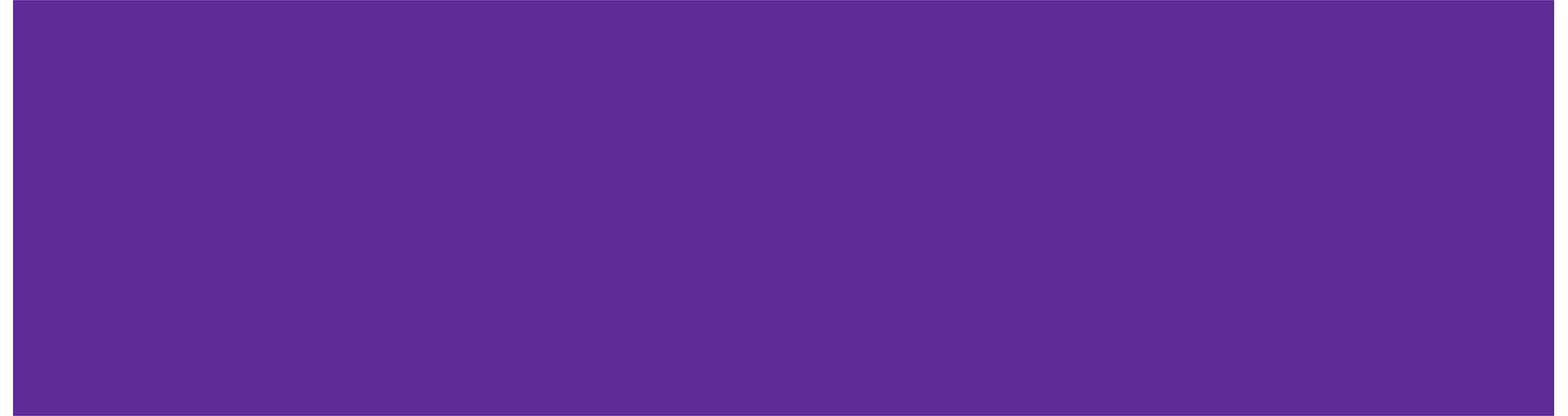


Analyzing Poetry



In your own words define the following terms:

Simile-

Metaphor-

Allusion-

Symbolism-

Personification-

Watch the Video. Describe how the video makes you feel. What is the video about?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wL64XbKwzLI>

Interpreting Figurative Language

Simile- comparing using “like” or “as”

Metaphor- a figure of speech in which a word or phrase is applied to an object or action to which it is not literally applicable.

Allusion- an expression designed to call something to mind without mentioning it explicitly; an indirect or passing reference.

Symbolism- the use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities

Personification- the attribution of a personal nature or human characteristics to something nonhuman

Interpreting Literal Meaning

Understanding the actual meaning of a poem can help us explore the more abstract meanings as well.

When reading ask yourself:

- What is the poem describing?
- What is happening in this poem?
- Who or what is this poem describing?

Understanding Imagery

Ask yourself:

- Is this poem depicting one image as a whole?
- Are there multiple images?
- How are the images being described to the reader?
- Are these images in motion? Or stationary?

Interpreting Figurative Language

When interpreting figurative language it is important to question the literal meaning of a poem.

If something is happening or being described that does not happen or fit in real life, it is likely some form of figurative language.

Remember, comparing the literal meaning to the possible meaning helps us gain insight and understanding.

Now we will try interpreting a poem on our own...

The Rose That Grew From Concrete

Did you hear about the rose that grew
from a crack in the concrete?

Proving nature's law is wrong it
learned to walk with out having feet.

Funny it seems, but by keeping it's dreams,
it learned to breathe fresh air.

Long live the rose that grew from concrete
when no one else ever cared.

Meet the Author: Tupac Shakur

Born in New York City in 1971, Tupac Shakur, known by his stage name 2Pac, was an American rapper. Shakur has sold more than 75 million albums worldwide, making him one of the best-selling music artists in the world. Most of Tupac's songs are about growing up amid violence and hardship in ghettos, racism, other social problems and conflicts with other rappers during the East Coast-West Coast hip hop rivalry. Shakur was shot and killed in Las Vegas, Nevada, in



Quick video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BOCQd6VCQ8w>

Langston Hughes

James Mercer Langston Hughes was an American poet, social activist, novelist, playwright, and columnist from [Joplin, Missouri](#). His poetry and fiction portrayed the lives of the working-class blacks in America, lives he portrayed as full of struggle, joy, laughter, and music. Permeating his work is pride in the African-American identity and its diverse culture. "My seeking has been to explain and illuminate the Negro condition in America and obliquely that of all human kind,"^[44] Hughes is quoted as saying. He confronted racial stereotypes, protested social conditions, and expanded African America's image of itself.

