

A Poetry Comparison Table!

An important thing to remember is that you are expected to **compare and contrast**. This means that you need to look for the similarities and differences between the two poems, before evaluating those similarities and differences. (Little credit can be given for an answer that simply points out how the poems are alike or not, without considering how your understanding of one poem informs your understanding of the other!)

As a rule, you should put the poems alongside each other and go from one to the other in an **alternating pattern**. Do NOT deal with the poems separately in the same essay.

	Poem A	Poem B
Theme / Overall Meaning		
Viewpoint / Attitude towards subject		
Diction: - Verbs - Adjectives - Formal / informal - Precise / ambiguous		
Figurative Language: - Imagery - Metaphor / simile - Allusion - Symbolism - etc.		
Tone		
Atmosphere / Mood		
Structure and form: - Regular / irregular - Sentence / stanza structure - Rhyme / unrhymed - Rhythm / Meter		

What are some possible comparative points / topic sentences that I could generate based on my observations above?