Poetry Analysis Using TPCASTT

Getting Started…

- This is a process to help you organize your analysis of poetry.

- We have already learned the vocabulary, now it's time to put it into practice!

- Together, we are going to analyze "Beware: Do Not Read This Poem" using TPCASTT.

- You have a note sheet that looks like this…

Add your analysis of "Beware: Do Not Read this Poem" to this sheet!
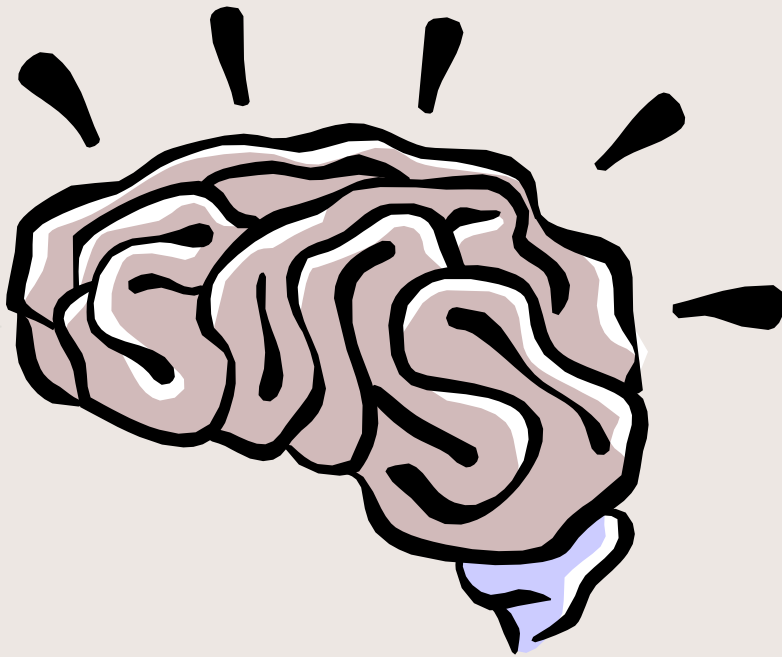
- T-
- P-
- C-
- A-
- S-
- T-
- T-

T is for TITLE

- Analyze the title first.
- What do you predict this poem will be about?
- Write down your predictions.
- We will reflect on the title again after we have read the poem.
- The next step is often omitted, but it is the most important!!!!

READ THE POEM!!!!

P is for PARAPHRASE

- Paraphrasing is putting something in your own words.

- After reading the poem, rewrite it in your own words.

- This may be three sentences or a page, depending on the particular poem.

C is for CONNOTATION

apostrophe ASSONANCE

RHYME alliteration

personification diction
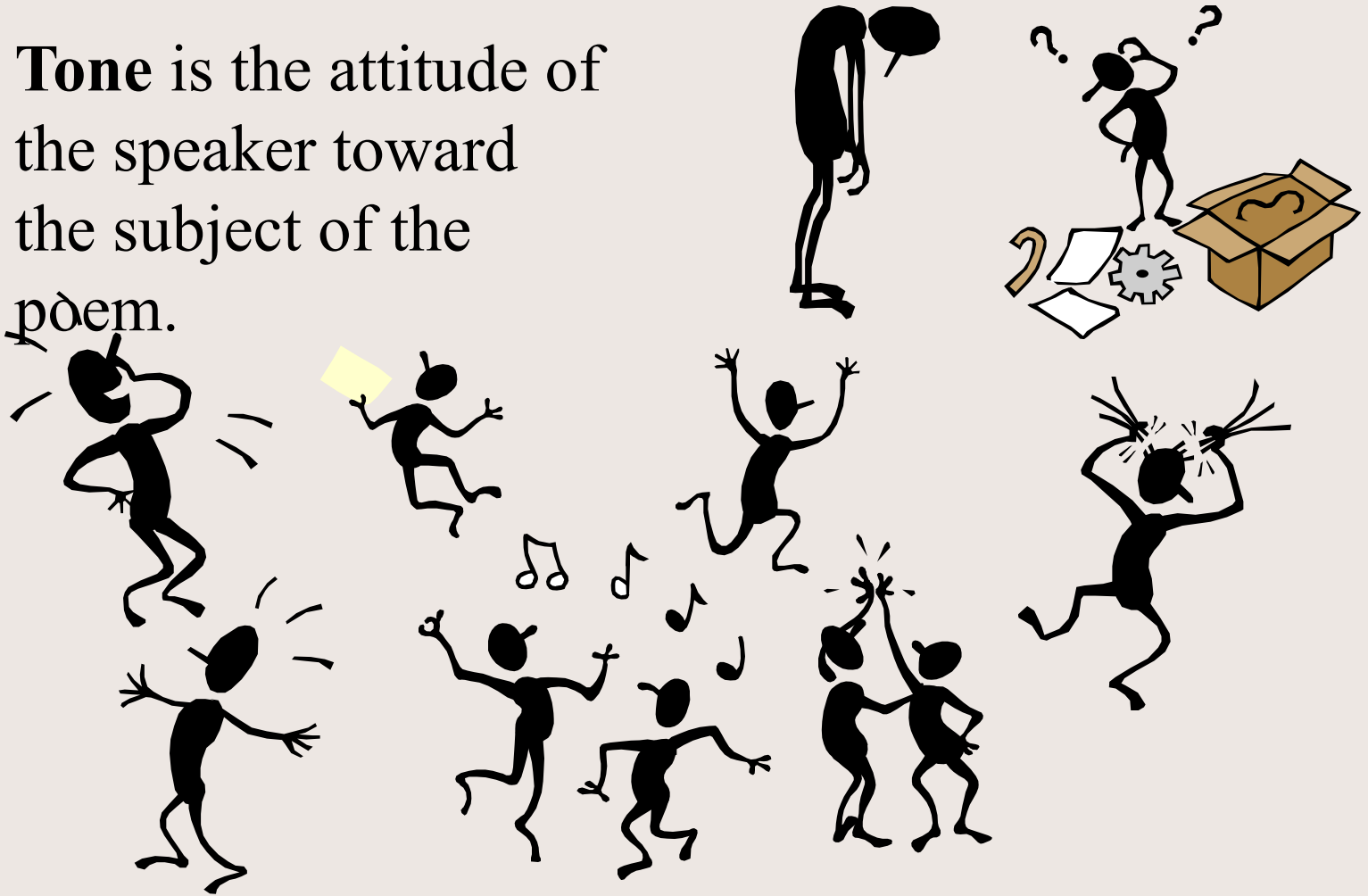
onomatopoeia simile

implied metaphor

meter HYPERBOLE

direct metaphor

- Analyze the figures of speech and sound effects of the poem.
- These are the poetry vocabulary we have already studied.
- These elements add to the meaning.

A is for ATTITUDE

- **Tone** is the attitude of the speaker toward the subject of the poem.

S is for SHIFT

- If there is a change in…
  - Time
  - Tone
  - Speaker

  This should always be noted as this will also affect the meaning.

T is for TITLE (again)

- At this time, you should reconsider the title.

- Were you right in your predictions?

- What other meanings might the title have in light of your analysis?

- Next, the biggie….

T is for THEME

- As you already know, theme is the general insight into life conveyed by the author through his/her work.

- It does not make a judgment.

example: "Don't do drugs" is not a theme.

- It merely states something that is true to life and the human condition.

How do I find the THEME?

- Look at the other parts of TPCASTT.
- What insight are all of these working together to convey?
- What is the poet trying to say about life?