

English 10
Poetry Explication Presentations

On Monday, you'll have a chance to ask any questions about the explication presentations, and then most of the presentations themselves will be Tuesday and Wednesday, with any remaining presentations given on Thursday morning as we begin our *Henry V* in-school field trip. We'll establish presentation order on Monday, as well, and **any students who would like to go ahead and present on Monday will receive a half-letter grade of extra credit** for going first and helping the class get started. Everyone should be ready to present on Tuesday.

By virtue of your writing your explication, you have become an expert on your poem. For the presentation, you are giving a talk about your most important findings. You'll give your thesis, which will be about theme or overall emotional effect. Then **you will spend your talk giving us the best information you have, highlighting two or three sections of your paper.** There is no pressure to mention all sections; emphasize what is working most strongly in your poem.

- Begin the presentation by reading or reciting your poem.
- Give your thesis, which will highlight theme or overall emotional effect.
- Choose just 2-3 sections of your paper to highlight**, giving evidence that best supports your thesis. You do not need to mention all sections.
- I will project your poem, and you should feel free to write on it on the whiteboard or to point to important bits.
- Presentations should be 5-7 minutes.** This means you have to decide what is important, and it means you should practice your presentation at least once before class to make sure your timing is right. **Please do not take longer than your allotted 7 minutes.**
- You have become an expert on your poem. **Be engaging.** Tell us what you have learned. Help us see through your own engagement what is interesting and noteworthy about your poem.
- Remote students may prepare a version of their poem to screen-share and highlight with their cursor as they talk over what they share. Remote students may prefer to make a PowerPoint if that is easier—again only the poem and annotations may be present in the PowerPoint.
- The explication is about the poem itself.** Do not give biographical information about your poet. If you need to identify the historical or literary period of your poem, feel free to do that, but you must minimize extra-textual information.
- Similarly, **your explication should be based on the information we have discussed in the poetry unit** and in Perrine, with a few forays into particular observations about your poem. If you have information from an outside source, it must be a credible source, and it must be cited.