

TP-CASTT Poetry Analysis

T	Title: Before reading the poem, make a prediction about what the poem is about based on the title.
	This poem will be about Columbus. It might be about his childhood or one of his voyages.
P	Paraphrase: Translate the poem line by line into your own words. Look for complete thoughts and look up unfamiliar words.
	Behind the crew, they see nothing but azores, or volcanoes. They do not see any shore in front of them. The men are frustrated that they have not reached land. Columbus urges them to sail on and to stick with him a bit longer. The crew sails through treacherous waters. Columbus still tells them to sail on. They finally see a speck of light from land.
C	Connotation: What words or phrases stick out to you? Look for patterns and figurative language, imagery, and sound elements.
	Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sail on! Sail on! Sail on! • Not the ghost of shores • "This mad sea shows his teeth tonight. He curls his lip, he lies in wait, • The words leapt like a leaping sword:"Sail on! sail on! sail on! and on!
A	Attitude/Tone: Notice the speaker's attitude toward the subject of the poem. This is the author's tone.
	Columbus is hopeful that they will find land. The speaker's attitude toward the subject of the poem is light and playful.
S	Shifts: As you look for patterns, also look for contrasts or shifts/changes in poem. Look for changes in language, attitude, setting/imagery, mood, punctuation, other literary devices.
	The poem shifts from the mood of the crew, angry and disgruntled, to the mood of Columbus, hopeful to sail on.
T	Title: Examine the title again. What does it mean now that you've read the poem? Did the meaning of the title change?
	This poem is about Columbus's first voyage.
T	Theme: State what the poem is about (subject) and what the poet is trying to say about subject (theme).
	This poem is about Columbus's voyage to the New World and his perseverance to continue to find a route to the Indies, even through the challenges that he faced.