Poetry: Personal Response Assignment

Learning Outcome:
- develop, clarify and defend own interpretation, based on evidence from the text with support from own experiences.
- reflect on, revise and elaborate on initial impressions of oral, print and other media texts, through subsequent reading, listening and viewing activities

You will write a personal response to a poem of your choice. Be sure to get it approved. The purpose of this assignment is for you to practice responding to specific text, in this case, a poem, and to practice identifying significant uses of artistic language that convey meaning.

Checklist:
- Choose a poem that you like
- Get it approved.
- Study the poem for poetic devices and meaning
- Respond to the poem.

Some of the literary devices that you may encounter:
- Personification
- Alliteration
- Contrast
- Imagery
- Simile or Metaphor
- Hyperbole

You may have trouble with the personal response section of your assignment:
The following is a list of suggestions to help you get started on your responses:

- I really liked this poem's idea because...
- The mood of the poem reminded me of ...
- The description of _____________ in this poem made me think of ....
- This poem reminded me of the ___________ (another poem, story or film)
- because...
- I once had an experience like the one described in this poem, in which....
- The setting of this poem is important because ...
- When I read this poem, I imagined ...

The response should be at least one typed page. Consider the analysis to be one half and the personal response to be the other half.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal Response</td>
<td>Perceptions and/or ideas expressed are insightful, carefully considered, and confident. Support is apt and thoughtfully selected.</td>
<td>Perceptions and/or ideas expressed are thoughtful or considered. Support is relevant, purposeful or thorough.</td>
<td>Perceptions and/or ideas expressed are appropriate. Support is straightforward and generally focused.</td>
<td>Perceptions and/or ideas expressed are incomplete, superficial, or unaware. Support is inappropriate and/or repetitive.</td>
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<td>Interpretation</td>
<td>Hypothesis about the meaning of the poem is insightful.</td>
<td>Hypothesis about the meaning of the poem is reasonable.</td>
<td>Hypothesis about the meaning of the poem focus only on the literal meaning but offers no elaboration. Support from the work is implausible.</td>
<td>Attempts to interpret the meaning or mood of the work is inadequate. Support is missing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analysis: Poetic Devices</td>
<td>The analysis includes most of the dominant elements and poetic devices used by the poet and thoughtfully relates how they are used to reinforce the theme, meaning, mood, or feeling of the poem.</td>
<td>The analysis accurately describes a couple of dominant elements and poetic devices used by the poet and accurately relates how these are used by the poet to reinforce the theme, meaning, mood, or feeling of the poem.</td>
<td>The analysis describes some dominant elements and poetic devices used by the poet, but does not appropriately discuss how these relate to the meaning or feeling of the poem.</td>
<td>The attempt at analysis is incomplete and lacks relevance. The response does not attempt to discuss how the poetic devices are used to reinforce the theme, meaning or mood.</td>
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<td>Voice</td>
<td>The writer’s voice is engaging, and the tone is effective. Stylistic choices are precise and effective.</td>
<td>The writer’s voice is distinct, and the tone is well considered. Stylistic choices are specific.</td>
<td>The writer’s voice is matter-of-fact and the tone is appropriate. Stylistic choices are adequate.</td>
<td>The writer’s voice is confused. Stylistic choices impede communication.</td>
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<td>Conventions</td>
<td>Response is well organized. There is clear evidence of revision. There are few grammar and/or spelling errors.</td>
<td>Response is organized. There is some evidence of revision. There is a lack of effective transition between ideas. There are minor grammar and/or spelling errors</td>
<td>The main idea of the response is not well stated or implied. There is a lack of transition between ideas. There are many grammar and spelling errors.</td>
<td>Response is not organized. There is no evidence of revision. Grammar and spelling errors negatively affect readability.</td>
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