

# Strategies For Teaching Poetry – West Virginia

1. Annotation (self—small group—large group)  
A regular practice
2. Thematic—choose poems to accompany anchor texts (novel/drama) to create cohesion.

When annotating, students must do the following by the final note-taking session:

- Identify a theme phrase
  - Identify tone(s)
  - Identify speaker
  - Importance of title
  - Effect of figurative language
3. THESIS: construct a defensible thesis statement that must address theme, tone, speaker. Other elements may be present if incorporated appropriately.
  4. Literary Conversations

2-minute timed “table/group” discussion on initial reactions after reading

Move/rotate one person to the left-right –then have 2-min. conversation about another element (Theme, tone, figurative language). Continue rotating for other discussion focuses