

Pompeii, I See Poem Rubric



Category	4	3	2	1
Focus on Topic (Content)	There is one clear, well-focused topic. Main idea stands out and is supported by detailed information.	Main idea is clear but the supporting information is general.	Main idea is somewhat clear but there is a need for more supporting information.	The main idea is not clear. There is a seemingly random collection of information.
Word Choice	Writer uses vivid words and phrases that draw pictures in the reader's mind. The choice and placement of the words seems natural and not forced.	Writer uses vivid words and phrases that draw pictures in the reader's mind, but occasionally the words are used inaccurately.	Writer uses words that communicate clearly, but the writing lacks variety, punch or flair.	Writer uses limited vocabulary that does not communicate strongly or capture the reader's interest.
Flow & Rhythm	All lines sound natural and are easy-on-the-ear when read aloud. Each line is clear and has an obvious emphasis.	Almost all lines sound natural and are easy-on-the-ear when read aloud, but 1 or 2 are stiff and awkward or difficult to understand.	Most lines sound natural and are easy-on-the-ear when read aloud, but several are stiff and awkward or are difficult to understand.	The lines are difficult to read aloud because they sound awkward, are distractingly repetitive, or difficult to understand.
Personality (Voice)	The writer seems to be writing from knowledge or experience. The author has taken the ideas and made them "his own."	The writer seems to be drawing on knowledge or experience, but there is some lack of ownership of the topic.	The writer relates some of his own knowledge or experience, but it adds nothing to the discussion of the topic.	The writer has not presented the information in a personal way. The ideas and the way they are expressed seem to belong to someone else.
Presentation & Illustrations	The illustrations enhance the content of the poem and are completed with effort.	The illustrations add to the content of the poem and are done with some effort.	The illustrations have to do with the content of the poem, but show limited effort.	The illustrations have to do with the content of the poem, but are not done with effort.