

Sonnets and Other Elizabethan and Cavalier Poetry Talking Paper Project

Directions:

Prewriting:

1. Please read the sonnet selections carefully.
2. Write down some thoughts you have regarding similarities and differences in the sonnet selections. Look at subject matter and theme, imagery and other figurative and descriptive language, stanzaic structure, meter and rhyme scheme, sound devices, volta, and speaker.
 - your observations need to be one paragraph in length, or at least one half of a page, typed, double spaced.

Written Analysis:

3. Select one sonnet you feel passionate about, make a copy of it and create an analysis of it following the “*Deboning the Fish*” guide, using colors, underlining, circling and other shapes to begin to develop an interpretation.
 - You *must* identify five (5) different literary devices.
 - You *must* identify the dominant or controlling image(s) in the last line, first line, and title.
4. Write the one page formal typed talking paper.

Mechanics:

- the paper itself is double spaced and in conventional 12 pica font
- the analysis *must* feature clearly distinguishable colors and/or shapes
- the analysis *must* feature a clear key

What is a ‘talking paper?’

A talking paper is a highly focused reflection on a particular issue or insight or observation. The reflection generally explores from the very specific to the general using a piece of text, or in other words, uses *inductive reasoning*. The reflection/discussion comments on insights, raises questions, and deconstructs an idea in a thorough and thoughtful writing, as if the discussion were under a microscope. A strong talking or response paper includes a close, focused reading of a work, quotations from the work, specific examples from the work, and arrives at least at one insight about the work under discussion. A talking paper can be the beginning of a longer discussion or graduate thesis about a particular work.

Brainstorming: