Student Analysis of Poems

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,

And sorry I could not travel both

And be one traveller, long I stood

And looked down one as far as I could

To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,

And having perhaps the better claim,

Because it was grassy and wanted wear;

Though as for that the passing there

Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay

In leaves no step had trodden black.

Oh, I kept the first for another day!

Yet knowing how way leads on to way,

I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh

Somewhere ages and ages hence:

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—

I took the one less travelled by,

And that has made all the difference.

1. Subject

* The poem is about the narrator recounting when he “came to a crossroads” in life which represents a decision he has to make. He then describes how he decided to take the less travelled path that not as many people follow. Later on in his life, he laments that no matter which decision he made he will have wondered about the alternative but that he is happy with how his life turned out.

* The poem can be interpreted in different ways but it seems to me like it is addressing how people tend to think there is one path that people should follow in life but in reality, you can also stray from the societal norms and do what makes you happy; either way, however, you will end up lamenting about the decision you didn’t make and wondering if it would have been better

1. Who is speaking?

* The author seems to be an older man reflecting on his life and a major decision that he made
* The author was reflecting on the progression of his life, in the beginning, he comes across the “fork in the road” and has to make a decision but by the end, he is older and telling about his story.
* He doesn’t seem to be writing the poem to one specific person, but to everyone.
* He wants to tell people not to waste time doing things that don’t make sense to you or you don’t like doing. It can be worth taking the path less travelled, the less common option in life if that is what you really want.
* He seems to be reflecting on the choice he made in his past sometime in the future probably from somewhere comfortable

1. The diction of the poem

* Grassy, overgrown
* Denotation= full of grass, overgrown
* connotation= not many people choose this path
* To where it bent in the undergrowth
* denotation= literally where there is a bend in the path
* connotation= thinking of the results/consequences of each decision until he can’t tell anymore
* Two roads diverged
* denotation= literally 2 roads separating
* connotation= he is coming to a point in life where he can go one of two ways

* The poem itself doesn’t include any cliches, however, it has itself become a cliche. It does include the sentiment of reflecting on past decisions which could be a cliche
* The poem’s diction/word choice adds to the poem because it is very descriptive and in general uses words that sound good.

1. Tone

* The road not taken is a very ambiguous and contemplative poem; it can be interpreted in very different ways. Maybe Robert Frost is telling people that they should take the seemingly more difficult path in life because it might yield even better results than the well-beaten path or societal norm. On the other hand, he goes on to contradict himself by saying “Though as for that the passing there/Had worn them really about the same/And both that morning equally lay/In leaves no step had trodden black” which insinuates that both the paths are equally untravelled and both will give good results.
* “... and sorry I could not travel both…” the author is contemplating a decision he made in the past
* “...and having perhaps the better claim... Though as for that the passing there, had worn them about the same…” ambiguous, the author contradicts himself

1. Rhythmical devices

* There are four stanzas with each stanza having five verses or lines. The rhyme scheme is ABAAB; the rhymes are strict and masculine, with the notable exception of the last line. There are four stressed syllables per line, varying on the iambic tetrameter base.

1. Literary Devices

* Simile: There is one simile used in the second stanza such as “as just as fair”. It shows how the poet has linked the road less taken to the easy way through life.
* Personification: Robert Frost has personified “road” in the third line of the second stanza. Here, it is started “Because it was grassy and wanted wear” as if the road is human, and that it wants to wear and tear.
* Metaphor/symbolism: There are many metaphors in the poem like road, fork in the road and yellow woods. The road in the poem is the metaphor of life, while the fork on the road metaphorically represents the choices we make to determine the course of our lives. Similarly, yellow woods are the metaphor for making decisions during the hard times of a person’s life. These metaphors used in the poem emphasize the importance of different decisions we make in different situations and their impacts on our lives.
* Hyperbole: “Because it was grassy and wanted wear” is a hyperbole because a person can’t wear a road.
* There is no punctuation other than commas and semicolons in the first half of the poem- maybe insinuating that the narrator isn’t taking any breaths, when making decisions you tend to stress a bit then do it fast

1. Values

* Yes, the poet is successful in retelling his experiences through the poem; he uses it almost as a story, bringing us along with him as he walks through the wood about to make his decision then what he experiences there.
* Yes, Robert Frost succeeds in creating a very descriptive poem that truly helps us to feel what he is saying
* The poem, to those who really read it, help give insight into making big decisions in life. The author encourages the reader to do what they really want to do, even if it seems less common because it is just as valid to go against the norms as with them. You are not the only one making a decision seemingly not popular in society.

Art Reflecting Life by Thomas King Poetry analysis

1.Subject of the poem

1.This poem is about the narrator's life before writing the poem and about how his life was very rough and very painful to remember and all of this information comes to the narrator at once which is why he has all these flashbacks and painful bloody memories. It almost seems like he was abused when he was younger and he pushed all the memories back and tried to forget them.

2. The poem addresses a psychological event that forced the narrator to oppress the memories of that event until when the poem was written

 2. Identifying the poems narrator

1. I believe that the narrator of the story is the author and I believe that throughout the poem he is talking to himself about his life and all the choices he has made and all the bad things that have happened but he now reflects and finds comfort within himself.
2. The narrator I believe is talking to himself in his own head and while he is alone.

3. Note the diction (word choice) of the poet

The words are kind of abstract, but we can figure it out after reading it several times. First when we get the poem, it’s pretty confusing and hard to understand the meaning from it. So we’ll say it’s a poem with fresh words composed together. Those novel words definitely contributes a sense of solemn to the poetry. And it creates a dignified atmosphere as there are dark patterns of their lives flashbacking, and how they struggle with it.

4. Determine the tone of the poem

The poem starts off unsettling talking about the past and flashes of disturbing images of his past are now flashing before his eyes. In the body it gets dark and you could also call it saddening. he’s talking about how he doesn’t want to remember it, he wants to let it go. He eventually reflects and realizes that realizes he needs to let go and move on from it and he finds peace with his past

5. Determine the rhythmical devices used by the poet

1. The stanza length throughout the poem changes and it goes like 3,6,4,4,3,6 lines for each stanza. The poem's rhyme scheme is end rhyme, some different devices used in this poem are hyperbole, figurative language, imagery, he uses dark tone.

6. Note uses of other literacy of devices

There’s no allusions that is shown, but the author uses different kinds of objects to referred how’s the tough life was before. For instance, disturbing and enigmatic images, cerebral menagerie. He used metaphor, simile, personification. The title definitely indicate the whole idea of the poem. The author compares his life as art. And take that as experience, remind people what they’ve been through was not easy, and glad that they got past their challenges.

7. Determine the value of the poem

You can feel his pain in the body you can kind of. When he talks about  wanting to let go and not think about it. Alot of people can connect to that. Then he realizes that he cant like do anything about it. He lets go

**O Captain! My Captain!**

By [Walt Whitman](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems-and-poets/poets/detail/walt-whitman)

O Captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done,

The ship has weather’d every rack, the prize we sought is won,

The port is near, the bells I hear, the people all exulting,

While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring;

                         But O heart! heart! heart!

                            O the bleeding drops of red,

                               Where on the deck my Captain lies,

                                  Fallen cold and dead.

O Captain! my Captain! rise up and hear the bells;

Rise up—for you the flag is flung—for you the bugle trills,

For you bouquets and ribbon’d wreaths—for you the shores a-crowding,

For you they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces turning;

                         Here Captain! dear father!

                            This arm beneath your head!

                               It is some dream that on the deck,

                                 You’ve fallen cold and dead.

My Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still,

My father does not feel my arm, he has no pulse nor will,

The ship is anchor’d safe and sound, its voyage closed and done,

From fearful trip the victor ship comes in with object won;

                         Exult O shores, and ring O bells!

                            But I with mournful tread,

                               Walk the deck my Captain lies,

                                  Fallen cold and dead.

Analyze Poetry

1. Suneel: A captain dies. The poet doesn’t give any dates to the poem so we cannot identify if it is real or not.
2. Ayden: First person. The captain’s son is speaking to the audience and the captain. The setting and vision of the poem may be on the ship.
3. Ayden: An unfamiliar word is bugle trills. It refers to the celebration.
4. Ayden: It’s like an ode.
5. Maddox: The rhyme scheme is aabbcdc for the first stanza, eebbfcgc for the second stanza and hhaaecdc for the third stanza.
6. Maddox: It is based about Abraham Lincoln being assassinated. Onomatopoeia: ring O’bells. Alliteration throughout the poem for 2 words. Imagery: bleeding drops of red. Symbol: For you they call, the swaying mass. Synecdoche: the shores a-crowding. Repetition: O captain my captain, heart, heart, heart. I think the title is pretty good as it summarizes what the poem is talking about.
7. Maddox: The poem is straight forward as it gives the idea of what happens when someone dies. However, it does not specify that is based on Abraham Lincoln. The poet did a good job of telling his experience to the reader because he uses descriptive words to the reader.

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| Robert Frost (1874–1963).  Mountain Interval.  1920. |
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| **1. The Road Not Taken** |
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| |  | | --- | |  | | TWO roads diverged in a yellow wood, |  | | And sorry I could not travel both |  | | And be one traveler, long I stood |  | | And looked down one as far as I could |  | | To where it bent in the undergrowth; | *5* | |  |  | | Then took the other, as just as fair, |  | | And having perhaps the better claim, |  | | Because it was grassy and wanted wear; |  | | Though as for that the passing there |  | | Had worn them really about the same, | *10* | |  |  | | And both that morning equally lay |  | | In leaves no step had trodden black. |  | | Oh, I kept the first for another day! |  | | Yet knowing how way leads on to way, |  | | I doubted if I should ever come back. | *15* | |  |  | | I shall be telling this with a sigh |  | | Somewhere ages and ages hence: |  | | Two roads diverged in a wood, and I— |  | | I took the one less traveled by, |  | | And that has made all the difference. | *20* | |

The road not taken by Robert Frost

1. Determine the subject of the poem

Phrases/summarize the poem; what is it about? - The poem speaks about a crossroads and that they decide to take the read less traveled on, “and it makes the difference”

1. Identify the poem’s narrator

Who is speaking? - A person at a crossroads, its speaking in first person

To whom? - The reader

Under what circumstances? - In a forest and past

1. Note the diction (word choice of the poet)

Trodden-

1. Determine the tone of the poem

Is the poem serious? Ironic? Satiric? Contemplative? Ambiguous? – the poem is comtemplative and ambiguous

Point out the words that set the tone-

Determine whether the tone changes within the poem-

1. Determine the rhythmical devices used by the poet

What is the basic metrical pattern? - 4 stanzas

What is the length of the stanza? - 5 lines per stanza

What is the rhythm scheme? End rhyme? Internal rhyme? - end rhyme

What form does the poem take? Open or closed? – the form of the poem take is closed

1. Note the use of other literary devices

What allusions does the poem contain? – There aren’t any allusions in this poem

Listen to the sounds in the poem, make note of assonance, alliteration and onomatopoeia. – Yes, there are multiple examples of assonance, and there isn’t any example of alliteration nor onomatopoeia

Does the poet use figurative language, such as metaphor, simile, symbolism, imagery, irony, personification, antithesis, hyperbole, metonymy? – Yes, the poet uses figurative language such as, metaphors, symbolism, imagery

Are there any examples of metonymy or synecdoche in the poem? - Yes, there is examples of synecdoche

Are there any punctuations – Yes there are commas and semi colons, exclamation point and question mark.

Is the title the best the written could have chosen? – Yes, the title of the poem shows clearly the meaning of the poem and represents it well.

1. Determine the values of the poem

Does the poet succeed in recreating his experiences within the reader? How? -

Is the experience intensely felt by the reader? -

Does the poem succeed in sharpening the readers awareness of something significant? -

Oh Captain my Captain

1. It is about Abraham Lincoln and how he dies from being shot and how he fulfills his goal in life and gets praised by the people around him. In the second verse they are explaining the funeral and when the bells are rung there are flowers everywhere and crowded people when the eager faces are turning sad. Then I imagine them chanting at the funeral about his death. When there were crowds of people surrounding the shores, I imagine there were a lot of people there because he was important. Lastly, the last verse is recapping that’s he’s dead and how his life was a great, fearful journey and it is now anchored and finished

1.     The poem talks about Abraham Lincoln’s death. In the first stanza the author says that the life of his “Captain” is over, and after many struggles the price was won. There are many people at his funeral praying for him while their eyes are full of tear. Abraham Lincoln was shot and fell dead on the deck. The second stanza is about his funeral and how many people were honoring him, there were bouquets and ribbon’s wreaths. The last stanza is a conclusion that the president is really dead, he is pale and has no pulse nor will, yet after all the difficulties his goals have been achieved.

2.  The poem was probably written by an American citizen for Abraham Lincoln in his funeral.

2. -  The sailors

-        The captain

-        It seems like captain died during sailing and the ship is heading to the port.

3.   - weather’d, ribbon’d

-        While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring

For you they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces turning

From fearful trip the victor ship comes in with object won

-        Concrete

-       no

-         no

4. . -  Serious

-        Dead, fearful, pale, bleeding drops of red

-        The tone of voice changes (2nd verse)

5. . -     4,4

-        ABAB

-        End rhyme: Done-won, exulting-daring, bells-trills, crowding-turning, still-will

-        Bells, call, trills, still, will

-        Closed

6. . -     My Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still = his death

[**Assonance**](https://literarydevices.net/assonance/)**:** An assonance is a repetition of the vowel sounds in the same line such as the sounds of /i/ in “ship and “trip.” and O captain, My captain

**Alliteration**: “the **flag** is **flung**—**for** you”

[**Alliteration**](https://literarydevices.net/alliteration/)**:** Alliteration is the [repetition](https://literarydevices.net/repetition/) of the same consonant sounds in the same lines of the poetry such as the use of /f/ in “flag is flung” and the sound of /s/ in “safe and sound.”

**Onomatopoeia**: “and **ring** O bells!”

* [**Metaphor**](https://literarydevices.net/metaphor/)**:** There are three extended metaphors in the poem. The first [extended metaphor](https://literarydevices.net/extended-metaphor/) is “Captain,” used in the first line that runs throughout the poem. Here Captain represents Abraham Lincoln who loses his life in the battle. The second metaphor is “Voyage,” which presents the Civil War. The journey of the voyage is full of tests and trials, but now the ship is nearing the port represents the timeline of the Civil War. The third metaphor, “ship” represents the United States that has undergone the Civil War
* **Symbolism**: the swaying mass, no pulse nor will
* Imagery: bleeding drops of red
* [**Imagery**](https://literarydevices.net/imagery/)**:** Imagery appeals to the five senses of the readers. The poet has used visual imagery such as, “cold and dead”, “Lips are pale and still”, bleeding drops of red” and “mournful tread.” Whitman’s choice of powerful words has made the reader visualize the death of the captain.
* Irony: Situational “You’ve fallen cold and dead” we didn’t know that was going to happen

7.

* Yes
* Yes
* yes

Poem Analasis

“If” by Rudyard Kipling

If you can keep your head when all about you

Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;

If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,

But make allowance for their doubting too;

If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,

Or, being lied about, don't deal in lies,

Or, being hated, don't give way to hating,

And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise;

If you can dream - and not make dreams your master;

If you can think - and not make thoughts your aim;

If you can meet with triumph and disaster

And treat those two imposters just the same;

If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken

Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,

Or watch the things you gave your life to broken,

And stoop and build 'em up with wornout tools;

If you can make one heap of all your winnings

And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,

And lose, and start again at your beginnings

And never breath a word about your loss;

If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew

To serve your turn long after they are gone,

And so hold on when there is nothing in you

Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on";

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,

Or walk with kings - nor lose the common touch;

If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you;

If all men count with you, but none too much;

If you can fill the unforgiving minute

With sixty seconds' worth of distance run -

Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,

And - which is more - you'll be a Man my son!

1. **Determin the Subject of the Poem – A**

What is it about?

The poem is about being true to yourself, and it is about being confident and standing up for what you believe in

Does the poem address a social, pschological, historical, or mythical phenomenon?

This poem address the social accept on life, its shows that you should true to youself. Also during poem the narrator is giving someone advice so it shows that you should share you knowledge.

1. **Identify the Poem’s Narrator – L**

The narrator is someone who’ giving advice to someone else

He’s speaking to someone who’s younger

1. **Note the Dictation ( word choice) of the Poet – R**

* There are lots of metaphors, refrencing that the person is giving advice.
* The words are abstract, there are lots of words that mean different things.
  + Terms like “keep your head” does not mean that your head might fall of, but is means instead that not to lose control of yourself.
* A new word : knaves – a dishones person
* A new word : sinew - a piece of tough fibrous tissue uniting muscle to bone or bone to bone; a tendon or ligament
* Not loosing your head is a cliche
* The poet uses the word “if” a lot, which pertains to the title of the poem.

1. **Determin the tone of the Poem-M**

It is a serious poem That tells You how to live life. How You experice everything

1. **Determine the Rhythmical Devices used by the poet - L**

Lines go from long to short

There are roughly 8 lines in every stanza and theres 4

The first 4 lines all have words at the end that rhyme i can’t find any internal rhymes

1. **Note the use if other Literary Devices – R**

* Reptition : “if you can”
* There is not really figurative, it is very direct in the way that the message / point is delivered.
* Oxymorons : “meet with triumph and desaster” / “hold when there is nothing to hold onto” / “ If you can dream - and not make dreams your master;” / “If you can think - and not make thoughts your aim;”
* Symbol : If you can keep your head – symbolises staying in control
* Symbol : the entire poem symbolises being in contol of who you are and being the best perosn you can be.

1. **Determin the values of the poem -A**

Does the poem succed in recrating his experiences within the read? How?

Is the experience intensely felt by the reader? – R

There is not much feeling by the reader, but they can understand the importance of the message. (More bellow)

Does the poem succeed in sharpening the reader’s awareness of something significant? – L

No it doesn’t talk about anything signifigant it justs talks about how you should live your life being confident