

Big D Poetry Competition Rubric

	4. Distinguished	3. Proficient	2. Apprentice	1. Novice
Creativity and Originality:	The writing includes many creative details that keep the reader's attention. The ideas are very original or unfamiliar when compared to other entries or concepts that are already well-known.	The writing uses some creative details that are original to the writer or hardly resemble concepts that are already well-known.	The writing includes a handful of interesting details and shows some imagination. The ideas are strongly similar to concepts that are already well known or lack uniqueness.	The writing is not creative or original. The writer does not use imagination, or the writer closely copies ideas within the genre that already exist.
Correctness: Spelling, Grammar, and Mechanics:	The writing is void of any spelling, punctuation, or grammar mistakes (unless done intentionally) The lack of mistakes contributes to the reader's ability to understand and enjoy the writing. The mastery of this category increases the reading experience.	The writing may have one or two spelling, punctuation, or grammar mistakes. The errors have no impact on the reader's ability to understand and enjoy the writing. The skillful use of this category increases the reading experience.	The writing includes three or fewer spelling, punctuation, and grammar errors. While the reader may notice these errors, they do not take away from the overall quality of the work.	The writing includes enough errors related to spelling, punctuation, and grammar to take away from the focus of ideas in the poem. The writing is difficult to understand as a result of these mistakes.

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<p>*Literary Devices:</p> <p>Examples (not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - metaphors - allegory - allusions - imagery - personification - satire - irony - symbolism 	<p>The writing masterfully uses literary device(s) and as a result adds relevant complexity or strengthens the depth and meaning of the entry.</p>	<p>The writing strongly includes literary devices, but there may have been missed opportunities to take currently included elements to a higher level.</p>	<p>The writing includes literary devices, but they are unclear, weak, or do not support the overall theme or message of the poem.</p>	<p>The writing either does not include literary elements or the usage of such devices is unclear. When devices are included, they are introduced at a surface level.</p>
<p>Clarity and Cohesiveness:</p>	<p>The writing flows well; the style and literary elements combine to present a clear message, theme, or overall lesson.</p>	<p>The writing is clear and cohesive, but the message or theme may be lacking substance or depth.</p>	<p>The writing has somewhat of a clear message, but there are aspects of the entry that fall flat or lead to confusion or questions.</p>	<p>The writing lacks overall meaning, theme, or clarity. The content of the poem is confusing or lacks purpose.</p>

* The score/placement of a poem will not be graded by the sheer number of literary devices, but rather *HOW* they are used. Using one literary device will not be reflected by a lower score.