

PENANG SANGAM HIGH SCHOOL
P.O.BOX 44, RAKIRAKI
LESSON NOTES

School: Penang Sangam High School

Year/Level: 10

Subject: English

Week: 13

Strand	Literature
Sub Strand	Poem
Content Learning Outcome	Explain the poem in terms of the important message it provides to the readers. Identify the different types of styles used in the poem. Discuss the important themes and how it relates to the society

Poem 2: 'Eyes'

Poet: Jully Sipolo

Read the poem and the notes given below to answer the questions.

EYES

*Trusting, innocent baby eyes
Tearful, sad, round eyes
Emaciated, sunken eyes
Prowling night-duty cat's eyes
Cunning, shifty, foxy eyes
Red, bleary, drunken eyes
Bloated, puffy, protruding eyes
Flat, slanting Asian eyes.*

*Whatever the shape and size,
Our eyes are the mirror
Revealing our insides, outside.*

Jully Sipolo



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FORM

This is a short, two-stanza poem. The first stanza is made up of 8 lines, all of which end with the same word: eyes, while the second stanza is made up of just 3 lines. The rhyme scheme for the first stanza is a, where the same word ends each line.

The second stanza has no rhyme scheme, as it is more like free verse. The first stanza has a regular rhythm of 4 strong beats per line. It sounds like someone reading off a list. For the

second stanza the rhythm changes.to match the sound of a person discussing an important idea.

POETIC DEVICES / STYLE.

A. The use of repetition.

The poet repeats the word, “eyes” at the end of each line in the first stanza. This is done to keep the readers focused on the eyes and the idea of the many different kinds of stories that they are telling onlookers. The repetition also helps keep the rhythm of the stanza.The word “eyes” is repeated once more in the second stanza to tie in with what has been described in the first stanza and explain why the eyes are so important.

B. The use of vivid imagery / descriptive words

The poet has used vivid descriptions to describe the eyes. These words help readers picture the type of eyes clearly in their minds, and they are able to make connections and guess what is going on, or whose eyes are being described.

Enjambment and Caesura

The second stanza is a good example of enjambment. The poet uses it to emphasize the importance of eyes in getting to know a person, then after the dramatic pause in the last line (caesura) the unexpected contrast.

THEMES

1.The eyes are the mirrors of the soul. (Expressed very clearly in the second stanza).

2 Everyone has their own story / struggle/ trial.

3 If you want to know more about someone, take the time to look into their eyes.

QUESTIONS

1) Name the title of the poem and the poet. _____

2) Discuss two themes from this poem.

3) Identify two styles used by the poet to write this poem.

4) Discuss for feelings after reading this poem.
