

Grading Rubric for 1st Draft

| Criteria | Points | Comments |
|---|-----------|----------|
| The poem's sense clear, not confused or obscure in places | 2 | |
| The poem's lines and stanzas have solid logical relationships to one another and the references in the lines are clear | 2 | |
| The tone of the speaker is consistent throughout the poem, it does not arbitrarily switch or lose its attitude | 2 | |
| The poem does not contain unwarranted connotations in the images and/or phrase that might throw the reader and the poem off track | 2 | |
| The poem sticks to strong, concrete images—is not overloaded with abstractions in which the reader has to supply his or her own stock responses | 2 | |
| Contains original language, and vibrant phrases, not clichés that don't work in new way | 2 | |
| Rhythms in the poem are lively and present, not flat and lacking in musicality so that it seems like prose broken into lines | 2 | |
| Diction is striking and fresh, not drab and routine | 2 | |
| Verbs are charged, active. Little or no use of the verb "to be." Minimum use of passive voice | 2 | |
| The poem says something in a new way. | 2 | |
| Total | 20 | |

Note: you will also lose ten points if the manuscript is short, or lacks proper identification and/or presentation formatting. I expect your name, date and assignment number at the top, right-hand side of page.