ENTERING A POEM

1. READ THROUGH THE POEM ONCE JUST TO GET A GENERAL IMPRESSION.
2. READ THROUGH AGAIN, CIRCLING WORDS AND UNDERLINING PHRASES THAT SEEM IMPORTANT OR UNUSUAL OR…CAPTIVATING
3. JOT DOWN ANY QUESTIONS THE POEM RAISES FOR YOU.

GENERIC QUESTIONS FOR APPROACHING A POEM

1. WHAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THE POEM?
2. WHO IS THE SPEAKER?
3. WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN THE POEM?
4. WHAT IS THE TONE OR FEELING IN THE POEM? EXPLAIN YOUR RESPONSE.
5. WHAT IS THE THEME OR “MESSAGE” OF THE POEM? AGAIN, EXPLAIN YOUR RESPONSE.