

from PREFACE TO LYRICAL BALLADS, WITH PASTORAL AND OTHER POEMS/
 from A DEFENSE OF POETRY

Skill Focus

COMPARE AND CONTRAST

Comparing and contrasting two or more works often helps you understand them better than if you read each work on its own. To help identify similarities and differences, focus on the following as you read each work:

- identify key words and phrases each author uses
- identify the main idea
- make logical connections, or inferences, about each work
- use inferences to draw conclusions about each work

Directions: Use the chart to keep track of key words and phrases that each author uses to define poetry and its purpose.

Words and Phrases about Poetry in Wordsworth	Words and Phrases about Poetry in Shelley
“... choose incidents and situations from common life ...” (lines 1–2)	“Poetry is indeed something divine” (line 1)