

SAILING TO BYZANTIUM / THE SECOND COMING / WHEN YOU ARE OLD

COPY MASTER

Reading Skill

CLARIFY MEANING IN POETRY

When a poem is complex or difficult to understand, try reading it several times to clarify its meaning.

- In a first reading, use the explanations in the notes and try to identify the poem’s subject.
- In your second reading, note any images that stand out in your mind.
- In your next readings, analyze lines that are still difficult to understand.

Directions: Complete these charts to clarify the meaning of each poem.

Title of Poem: "Sailing to Byzantium"	
Subject:	
Images That Stand Out	Difficult Lines

Title of Poem: "The Second Coming"	
Subject:	
Images That Stand Out	Difficult Lines

Title of Poem: "When You Are Old"	
Subject:	
Images That Stand Out	Difficult Lines