

## Reading Skill

### INTERPRET IDEAS

When you interpret ideas in a poem, you use clues in the poem to understand the poet's thoughts about a subject. Your interpretation will connect ideas stated or implied in the poem with your own knowledge. Read the entire poem and then go back and interpret key lines or images.

**Directions:** In the charts below, interpret key elements in each poem. Interpret the elements included and then select other important phrases, images, or lines to complete each chart.

#### "Musée des Beaux Arts"

Phrases, Images, or Lines	My Interpretation
While a martyrdom takes place, "the dogs go on with their doggy life . . ." (lines 10–12)	
" . . . everything turns away/Quite leisurely from the disaster . . ." (lines 14–15)	

#### "The Unknown Citizen"

Phrases, Images, or Lines	My Interpretation
"He was found by the Bureau of Statistics to be/One against whom there was no official complaint." (lines 1–2)	
" . . . everything necessary to the Modern Man/A phonograph, a radio, a car and a frigidaire." (lines 20–21)	