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| **ROACHES** **Poetry Review Name:** |

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| **Roaches**Last night when I got upto let the dog out I spieda cockroach in the bathroomcrouched flat on the coolporcelain,delicateantennae probing the toothpaste capand feasting himself on a gobof it in the bowl:I killed him with one unprofessionalblow,scattering arms and legsand half his body in the sink...I would have no truck with roaches,crouched like lions in the ledges of sewerstheir black eyes in the darknessalert for tasty slime,breeding quickly and without design,laboring up drainpipes through filthto the light;I read once they are amongthe most antediluvian of creatures,surviving everything, and in more primitive timesthrived to the size of your hand...yet when sinking asleepor craning at the stars,I can feel their light feetprobing in my veins,their whiskers nibblingthe insides of my toes;and neck arched,feel their patient scramblingup the dark tubes of my throat.--Peter Wild | **Vocabulary**Predicted Meaning | **Definition** | **Connotation** |
| **Spied (line 2):** I think this means to see something that is hard to see | Watched secretly | **(-) Negative**Being secretly watched doesn’t sound good and it led to the roach’s gross death! |
| **Crouched:** |  |  |
| **Probing:** |  |  |
| **Gob:** |  |  |
| **Truck:** |  |  |
| **Antediluvian (line 22):** I have never seen this word. Maybe it means hard or sturdy? | Before the deluge (flood in the Bible). So, it means ancient or really old. | **(+) Positive**It sounds like roaches are survivors. |
| **Primitive:** |  |  |

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| **Vocabulary**Predicted Meaning | **Definition** | **Connotation** |
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| **Write your Summary of “Roaches” below.****W5 Summary –** Asummary that answers the following questions: Who? What? Where? When? Why?**Acrostic Poem –** A poem in which the first letter of each line spells out a word or phrase. |

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| **from Nursery Rhymes for the Tender-hearted**Scuttle, scuttle, little roach-How you run when I approach:Up above the pantry shelfHastening\* to secrete\* yourself.Most adventurous of vermin\*,How I wish I could determineHow you spend your hours of ease,Perhaps reclining on the cheese.Cook has gone, and all is dark-Then the kitchen is your park;In the garbage heap that she leavesDo you browse among the tea leaves?How delightful to suspectAll the places you have trekked:Does your long antenna whisk itsGentle tip across the biscuits?Do you linger, little soul,Drowsing in our sugar bowl?Or, abandonment most utter\*,Shake a shimmy on the butter?Do you chant your simple tunesSwimming in the baby's prunes?Then, when dawn comes, do you slinkHomeward to the kitchen sink?Timid roach, why be so shy?We are brothers, thou and I,In the midnight, like yourself,I explore the pantry shelf! -Christopher Morley | **Literary Term** | **Text Example**  | **The Effect** |
| **End Rhyme** |  | The end rhyme gives the poem a playful, lighthearted rhythm |
| **Alliteration** |  |  |
| **Metaphor** |  |  |
| **Imagery** |  |  |
| **Repetition** |  |  |

**\*hastening:** hurrying

**\*secrete:** hide

**\*vermin:** gross insect

**\*utter:** total; complete

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| **Write your Summary of “Roaches” below.** |

**WRITE YOUR OWN!**

**Your Task:** On a separate sheet of paper, write your own roach poem from the perspective of a roach. Your poem should be in the **first person point of view**. Your poem can be free verse (a poem without a regular rhyme scheme or pattern) like Wild’s or it can have a rhyme scheme like Morley’s. Refer to the must haves and guiding questions below.

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|  | **MUST HAVES:**-at least 12 lines-use 3 literary devices (simile, metaphor, alliteration, repetition, hyperbole, onomatopoeia)-highlight at least three words that help convey your tone-write the tone at the bottom-make it neat |  | **Guiding Questions:**\*What does your roach have to say about humans? Other roaches? Food? His/her own life? Roach traps?\*Will your poem be in response to one of the roach poems we have read?\*Is your roach liked or hated by humans? |