

Theme: the main idea of a poem, story, or piece of art.

- (1) the abstract concept explored in a literary work,
- (2) frequently recurring ideas,
- (3) repetition of a meaningful element in a work.

Author's intention: It refers to the writer's purpose, what the author pretends to do through the poem (persuade, inform, entertain or teach)

- **Share feelings** (joy, sadness, anger, fear, loneliness)
- **Tell a story**
- **Send a message** (theme - something to think about)
- **Be humorous**

Provide description* (e.g., person, object, concept)

Example:

FREEDOM
Safe from judgment
Prejudice and fear
Speak your mind
With opinions clear
Freedom to sing
And dance and play
To live your dream
And love your way
Let no one condemn
Or steal your soul
Be accepting of others
With Kindness for all.

By Karen Horsley

Theme

Being Free

Author's intention:

Express yourself with freedom. Be yourself.

Justification

"Live your dream"
"Speak your mind"

1. Determine the Author's purpose of the following poems. Draw a line with the correct answer.

Understanding

Sun
And rain
And wind
And storms
And thunder go together.

There has to be a bit of each
To make the weather.

By Myra Cohn Livingston

To write a humorous poem
about the purpose of skin

Insides

I'm very grateful to my skin
For keeping all my insides in –
I do so hate to think about
What I would look like inside-out.

By Collin West

To describe an object.

Vacuum Cleaner

Roars over carpet
zig-zag-zips
sucking up fuzz
through metal lips.

By Dee Lillegard

To describe the concept of
weather

When I Was Lost

Underneath my belt
My stomach was a stone.
Sinking was the way I felt.
And hollow.
And alone.

By Dorothy Aldis

To share feelings about
being lost and scared.