Why study poetry?
• Many people and cultures have produced it
• It’s another way writers connect and reflect on their times and times past (and future!)
• It’s meaningful to a lot of people
• It’s where song lyrics come from!
• You need to understand the basics to be well-educated
• Because it’s THERE

Why write poetry?
• You have something to say and want a creative way to do it
  ∗ It doesn’t have to be overly intellectual
  ∗ Look at greeting cards!
• You enjoy puzzles AND writing
• You have a goal
• It’s pleasant to read (and sing)

Why write poetry?
• Some writers are so good with words they look for a challenge, such as expressing their ideas using a certain meter and rhyme scheme
• Sometime the challenge is to create a vivid word picture and evoke an emotion with as few words as possible