**Research Assessment #1**

**Date:** September 7, 2018

**Subject:** Writing Techniques in Love & Lyric Poems

**MLA Citation:**

Liu, Xiaoying. “Writing Techniques in the English Love and Lyric Poems.” *English Language*

*Teaching*, vol. 2, no. 1, 2009, doi:10.5539/elt.v2n1p159.

**Assessment:**

For my first research assessment of the year, I decided to read a paper on writing techniques in English lyric poetry, specifically themed around love. The article commented on the similarities in method between writers from different time periods, and went on to describe four specific techniques: Description, symbolism, figure of speech, and personification. I chose to look at poetry more in depth because that is a style I consistently write in, and I love both reading and writing it. Even though this article focused on writing techniques in British culture, I was able to take away so much more than I thought I would. The description of each technique was extremely thorough, and I found it extremely satisfying to read. Well-done metaphors are my weakness, so this paper had me successfully hooked. Every word had a purpose, and there was a point to everything mentioned, which helped me not only in learning more about these writing techniques but also about how to write concisely and to the point.

This new information is relevant to me and my ISM journey because I am studying creative writing, and one of the best ways to study the subject is to learn techniques that can either refine my pre-existing skills, or create new ones. Focusing specifically on poetry today, I knew that regardless of the fact that this paper is about British lyric and love poetry, we speak the same language in America, so any information I could learn in the English language is beneficial to me. Now, keeping these techniques at the forefront of my mind, I truly believe I could create a more successful piece of lyric poetry, which was my ultimate goal in reading this article. As I mentioned previously, the organization was a part that stood out to me. Separating the paper into chunks was a clever idea, because it makes it easier to digest. I have learned about figurative language and other rhetorical strategies in my previous English classes, but this article focused more on how to connect your message to the reader using these strategies, and gave great advice regarding each one. Ultimately, this paper was able to add to and specialize my previous knowledge, increasing my overall confidence as a writer.

As I conduct future research, I want to direct it toward more strategies and techniques that will improve my writing. Since creative writing is such a broad field, I would like to acquire as much advice and information as possible, so I can hopefully develop a more solid identity as a writer. Even if I feel like I know something, I do not want to close any doors to new information, so I will not have a problem in reading about a concept I am familiar with, as I am not an expert in anything yet! For now I will keep this newly acquired information in mind, and as I conduct more research, I will hopefully be able to show that I am understanding it through an improvement in my writing. I would like to practice the concepts from this article in a lyric poem and then see if there are any gaps in knowledge I need to conduct more research to fill. In the end, I believe this was the perfect article to start my second year of ISM research with, and am looking forward to learning more!