"What do I Remember of the Evacuation" Notes

Title:

Consider the title and make a prediction about what the poem is about. What do the words of the title suggest to you?
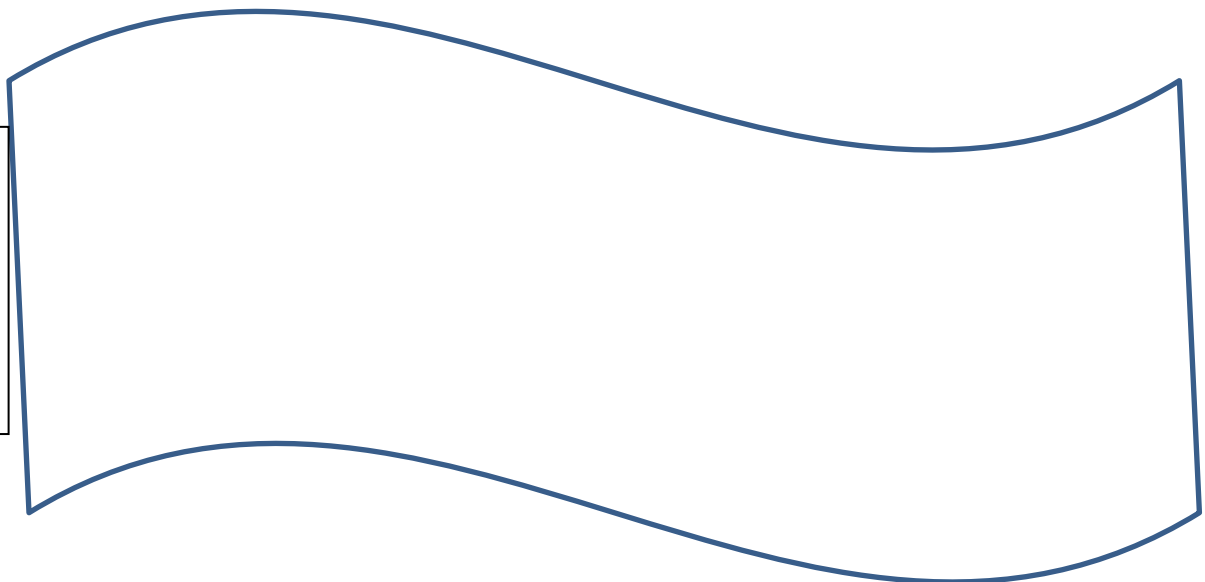
Connotation:

Consider imagery, figures of speech, diction, point of view, and sound devices focusing on how such devices contribute to the meaning or effect of the poem.

Attitude/Tone:

What is the subject of the poem? What is the speaker's attitude toward that subject? Additionally, how does the speaker feel about himself/herself and about others?

Shifts:

Where do the shifts in tone, setting, voice, etc. occur? Look for time and place, keywords, punctuation, stanza divisions, changes in length of lines and/or stanzas, rhyme, and sentence structure. What is the purpose of each shift? How do they contribute to effect and meaning?

Title:

Examine the title again, this time on an interpretive level. Do you notice any new significance?

Theme:

What is the poem saying about the human experience, motivation, or condition? What idea does the poet want the reader to understand about the subject?