

THE SOUND OF SILENCE POEM ANALYSIS

The poem 'The Sound of Silence' consists of five irregular stanzas in which the poet describes the conflict between spiritual and material values.

Hearing or reading a Paul Simon song gives a person a blessed experience, they had just seen real emotion, an oddity in these days. The neon light said that they had to follow the commands of the producers, who had advertised their products by painting on the walls of the subway and large buildings. Such imagery emphasizes the bleakness and abysmal hopelessness of his situation; his desperation to save the people goes unnoticed. That is its only purpose. The poet wakes in his restless dream and walks alone. But his words do not touch them at all. His perspective, at the time, was that there was a loss of faith and he is communicating that everyone is similar, especially at night if they were in the character's shoes at the time. He is talking about having a bad dream lately that has been haunting him. They debate and quarrel about worthless things. The fifth line seems to be the most powerful and moving in the song, as it is sung with a forte fortissimo direction. I feel this ironically gives it its uniqueness. And the people bowed and prayed To the neon god they made And the sign flashed out its warning In the words that it was forming The fake god they made themselves where to go look And the sign said, "The words of the prophets Are written on the subway walls by their children. The vision still remains there as the sound of silence. Imagery is used abundantly throughout the song. In "The Sound of Silence," Simon uses end rhyme, a type of rhyme that occurs when lines end with the same sound. This leads into the third stanza. People are not willing to listen to such things, at first. The passion and urgency from how this line is sung seems to implore the listener to understand its message. The main theme of the song was how this tragedy silenced the country, hence the title "Sounds of Silence". Paradox The University of California Stanislaus defines paradox as "an apparent contradiction that is nonetheless true. This is a good song or poem because it is not any ordinary song one hears on the radio, which are often about 'love' or 'living a free life'. Some people draw, some debate, and others write. In this case, paradox makes us think about the level of alienation these subjects experience. This poem relates to my theme because it shows just how effective the sounds that were described are, on the emotions of a reader. When he turned his collar, a flash of neon light would dazzle him. However, Simon uses these paradoxes to imply that the people's relationships and conversations are so superficial and limited that they fail to have any connection or deeper interaction. Moving on, and where this song is concerned: if it's one you love and haven't already heard it, do yourself the favor of listening to the version Paul Simon did on his own during his "Concert In The Park" in Central Park. While this coincidence may be a hint as to the allusions and message in the song, I prefer to identify it within and only within its musical and lyrical context. This rhyming enhances the words at the end of each line, which makes it more memorable for the reader. Rhyme Rhyme is the use of similar sounds to create unity within a poem or song. The author adopts a melancholy tone, choosing to resign himself to watching the people fall to their doom.