

Progressions

Progression: *an underlying organization which gives shape or movement to the idea of the lyric.*

A lyric with progression will begin the listener at one point and deliver him to a different point at the end.

Exposition/Development/Resolution

A - This is what I believe (*I think*)

A - Because (*Furthermore*)

B - But (*On the other hand*)

A - Why (*That's why I say...*)

Problem/Examination/Solution

A - identifies the problem

A elaborates on the problem; perhaps contemplates what caused it.

B - discusses a *solution* to the problem

A - proffers an action to take based on the solution

Pronoun Progression - uses a different pronoun as a focus in each of the A's.

Example:

A - *I*

A - *you*

B - *explore the relationship*

A - *us, or him/her*

Past/Present/Future

In a Past/Present/Future progression, each A section references a different moment in the singer's life. (Could be Present/Past/Future or Future/Present/Past, etc.)

Example:

A - evokes the present

A - evokes the past

B - contrasts the past with the present (or the present with the future).

A - evokes the future

Time Progression - The Calendar or the Clock

A second time progression is one which uses references to the clock or the calendar to unite the singer's thoughts. Evoke the hours of the day.... ("I woke up this morning...." or "Late last night....") Or the seasons....("If ever I would leave you, it wouldn't be in springtime" etc.)

Geography

Geographic progressions organize objects in the lyric according to their spatial relationship to each other. You're city, I'm country. When I'm at home, I do such-and-such, but when I'm out on the town I this-and-that. Ideally, the content of each A is organized around one of these locations.

Example:

A - your eyes

A - your nose

B - your mind

A - your heart