Hints for Year 11 Poetry Analysis

* Where there are several techniques that create the same or similar effect don’t repeat the same information each time you discuss a technique. Outline a technique and give a basic idea of the effect but wait until you have mentioned all the relevant techniques before going into detail with effect.

E.g: (this is only the middle of a paragraph – **not** a complete paragraph and even this bit can be expanded – it is only an example)

The **simile**, “like a thunderbolt he falls” suggests the power of the eagle *through the idea of lightning, which is both fast and powerful*. The **hyperbole**, “close to the sun” shows us an aloof and elevated figure, *far above our reach* ‘*near’ the sun, a literal impossibility but metaphorically indicative of incredible power*. These and other techniques are used by the poet, Tennyson, to *build the picture of the eagle as a powerful overlord with superior physical attributes and position.* This seems to be Tennyson’s idea of the superlative masculine figure as seen through the eyes of Victorian culture. Etc.

* You need to cover techniques and effects in as much detail as you can. Hopefully this means you won’t need to talk about that many techniques. Just do as many as fills up the 800 words.
* Cover the technique (with example) THEN the effect on the audience THEN bring in the

theme/idea that the poem (via the techniques) informs the audience about.