

### Sample 3

The poem "For That He Looked Not upon Her" by George Gascoigne exposes the desirous yet reluctant attitude of the speaker ultimately revealing that humans must learn from experience. The poet employs literary devices such as diction and imagery to solidify this point.

The speaker is desirous for the girl who is object of the work. However Gascoigne keeps the desire of the speaker discrete and only relays his emotion in precise diction. For instance, when the speaker explains how he "takes no delight" in looking at the "gleams" on her face, he is essentially complimenting her while telling her that he no longer revels in it. Later, the speaker refers to her "blazing eyes." The focus on her physical features subtly conveys the fact that they are prominent in the speaker's memory and that he still wants her.

The speaker's reluctant attitude towards the girl in the poem is most clearly expressed through the metaphors Gascoigne uses. He mentions how the mouse is "seldom 'ticed with the trustless bait" because "it fear[s] of more mishap" and "feedeth still in doubt of deep deceit." Basically, the speaker is expressing that no matter how much the mouse wants the bait, it knows from having "broken out of trap" that it isn't worth the pain and trouble; essentially learning from its mistake. The same idea applies to his situation in addressing the girl that he desires. He summarizes the connection between the mouse imagery and himself in his internal battle between "wink[ing]" at her or "hold[ing] down [his] head" because he knows that even though he wants her, he must learn from his prior experiences with her in which she bred his misery.