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Carpenter, Victoria (2011) Temporal Permutations in Octavio Paz's 'Piedra de sol'. In: Carpenter, Victoria, (ed.) A World in Words, A Life in Texts: Revisiting Latin American Cultural Heritage. Peter Lang, pp. 137-160

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Table 3. Repetitions of Sun Stone calendar words, 'instante' and 'no pasa nada' in timeplanes

	Viento	Casa	Muerte	Agua	Yerba	Sol	Lluvia	Flor	Instante	No pasa nada
TP1	X			X						
TP2	X			X			X			
TP3				X			X		X	
TP4	X					X	X	X	X	
TP5			X						X	
TP6				X		X				
TP7			X							
TP8									X	
TP9		X								
TP10				X						
TP11			X	X		X			X	
TP12				X						
TP13						X		X		
TP14						X				
TP14a					X					X
TP15			X			X			X	X
TP16			X			X				X
TP17						X				
TP17a			X	X		X				
TP18						X			X	
TP19	X			X						

Table 4. Sun Stone word repetitions in textbranes

	Viento	Casa	Muerte	Agua	Yerba	Sol	Lluvia	Flor	Instante	No pasa nada
TB1	X			X						
TB2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TB3			X			X			X	
TB4			X			X			X	X
TB5			X	X		X			X	X

Let us now consider the new textbrane division of the poem. Textbrane 1 is rather self-explanatory – it is a straightforward repetition of the first six lines of the poem; its temporal pattern is simple: T-T.⁵⁸ Textbrane 2 is the most complex one in the poem. It is comprised of nine timeplanes: four of these – timeplanes 2, 3, 14a and 17a – contain similar imagery of a movement through the woman's body, comparisons of the woman to forces of nature, repetitions of names: for example, María and Perséfone appear in timeplanes 4 (296) and 17a (309). Other timeplanes in the same textbrane share the same theme of a cyclic creation/destruction/re-creation of time and reality. Thus, these timeplanes were grouped together into a textbrane with the temporal pattern C-L-C-P-C-C-C-P-C. We can treat the first and the last two timeplanes as a fold in the textbrane because of a greater degree of similarities between them; the temporal pattern of this fold is C-L-P-C – a full circle.

In textbrane 3 (timeplanes 5, 7, 14) circular time from preceding timeplanes is replaced by linear time slowing down, collapsing and leading to physical death: this textbrane contains references to physical decay ('mis

⁵⁸ The notations used here are the same as in Carpenter 2001: C – circular, L – linear, P – spiral, T – static.