Poetry Project Presentation Plans, People! name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Each group will be assigned a poem to present to the class. Each group will read the poem, annotate the poem using stickies, answer the open ended questions and quiz style quiz questions. Each group will then present the poem. In presentations, the poem will be read aloud, annotated in real-time (using the stickies) and the open ended questions will then be explained. After the short presentations, students will answer the quiz style questions. This is an informal, 20-point assignment. You will be graded on completing all the quiz-style questions and your presentation.

Open-ended questions. For each answer, cite textual evidence. Answer for your group's assigned poem only.

1. What literary movement is your poem a part of?

2. Who is the speaker of the poem?

3. What poetic devices does the poem use?

4. What diction choices build imagery in the poem?

5. What is the tone of the poem?

**POEM 1: "The Weary Blues" by Langston Hughes, p. 884**

1. The connotative use of the word "moan" in line 10 suggests

a. that the old man is sick. c. the segregation of the era.

b. the sad music played on the piano. d. a desire to connect with nature.

2. The poem uses a simile in line 35 to suggest

a. that the old man is dead. c. that he is experiencing great prejudice.

b. that his piano has been stolen. d. that he slept very soundly.

**POEM 2: "My City" by James Weldon Johnson, p. 888**

1. The poem uses imagery in lines 5-7 to describe

a. a beautiful scene from nature. c. images he sees in a book.

b. the sights and smells of his city. d. dreams he has at night.

2. What positive diction does the speaker use to describe Manhattan?

a. "singing birds" (6) c. "shining towers" (12)

b. "flashing streams" (7) d. "unutterable pity" (13)

3. Which of the following best suggests the identity of the speaker?

a. A man who lives by himself in nature c. A man who feels oppressed living in Manhattan

b. A man who lives the exciting city life of Manhattan d. A man who is lost and afraid

**POEM 3: "Any Human to Another" by Countee Cullen, p. 894**

1. The poem uses a simile in the first stanza to describe the

a. feelings he is experiencing. c. speaker's love of nature.

b. imagery the speaker sees. d. American dream.

2. Line 20 uses personification to suggest that

a. joy does not have to be expressed in public. c. joy is not a common emotion.

b. African-Americans have experienced little joy. d. there is no joy in the world.

3. Which of the following best expresses the theme of the poem?

a. All humans experience the same basic feelings

b. One must live in nature to truly understand life

c. African-Americans are unfairly prejudiced in society

d. Emotions should be ignored to hide one's pain

**POEM 4: "A Black Man Talks of Reaping" by Arna Bontemps, p. 895**

1..How does the extended metaphor of farming/planting crops relate to the speaker’s experiences in America?

a. He has been very successful in the orchard c.  He has been wronged by the brother’s son

b.  He wants to move to Canada to grow bitter fruit d.  He hopes his children also glean lots of fruit

2.Given the context, what do the last two lines of the poem most likely mean/indicate?

a.  The future generations are going to be wronged by the white majority

b. The taste of the bitter fruit will provide clarity to his children

c. The sowing of the orchards will help to pay the brother’s son

d. He hopes his children do not ever notice the ‘bitter fruit’

**POEM 5: "Richard Cory" by E.A. Robinson, p. 922**

1. In lines 1-4, Richard Cory can best be described as

a. depressed and secretive. c. envied and refined.

b. ambitious and motivated. d. hated and despised.

2. The connotative use of "fluttered" in line 7 suggests that Richard Cory

a. was hated by all. c. was hiding a secret.

b. made others nervous. d. was very wealthy.

3. In reference to the final line of the poem, it can be inferred that Richard Cory

a. was heartbroken over a lost love. c. was secretly depressed despite his wealth and status.

b. had lived the American Dream. d. was confused and accidentally shot himself.

**POEM 6: "Grass" by Carl Sandburg, p. 932**

1. What is personified in line 1-3 as the speaker of the poem

a. The battles c.The train

b. The grass d.The shovel

1. In line 7-9 the questions being asked imply that

a. That the grass helps to normalize these past places of battle

b. That people will not understand all the graves they see

c. That history classes will no longer tell people of these battles

d. That the scenery will change and no longer be a natural beauty

3. What tone is established with the repetition of “I am the grass”

a. Mournful and depressing c. Sarcastic and bitter

b. frantic and urgent d. Serious and calm

**POEM 7: "Out, Out—" by Robert "The Iceman" Frost, p. 941**

1. The repetition in line 7

a. foreshadows the deadly capability of the saw. c. reiterates the drudgery of the work.

b. emphasizes the innocent feeling of the day. d. compares the boy to a tool.

2. Why is the saw personified in lines 14-16?

a. To demonstrate the pointlessness of the American dream

b. To illustrate the difficulty black Americans had during this time

c. To emphasize the violence and pointlessness of the action

d. To highlight the imagery of a calm, peaceful evening in Vermont

3. The connotative use of the word "spoiled" in line 25 clearly indicates

a. the pointlessness of the boy's death. c. the dangers of living in Vermont.

b. the end of the American dream. d. the heroism of the doctors and medical staff.

**POEM 8: "Helen" by H.D. (Hilda Doolittle), p. 954**

1.It can be inferred that Greece hates Helen because

a. She is very beautiful and caused past ills c. She smiles too much at the maid

b. She has become ash at a funeral d. She flaunts her beauty to all the other Greeks

2.What would it take for the Greeks to love Helen?

a. Her to have stopped the Trojan War c. To no longer be beautiful

b. To never have met Paris and stayed in Troy d. She has to be dead

3. The subject of this poem is an example of

a. allusion c. simile

b. apostrophe d. alliteration

**POEM 9: "Spring and All" by William Carlos Williams, p. 956**

1. The imagery in lines 1-8 builds a tone of

a. emptiness and despair. c. rage and anger.

b. joy and frivolity. d. optimism and hope.

2. The speaker describes spring as having a “stark dignity” and effecting a “profound change” (24, 25). Based on the diction, which of the following best describes how the speaker feels about spring?

a. He hates it c. He reveres it

b. He is ambivalent to it d. He is unsure how to feel

**POEM 10: “anyone lived in a pretty how town” by E.E. Cummings, p. 962**

1. The lack of punctuation and grammatical conventions in line 3 suggests that

a. winter is the speaker’s favorite season.

b. the passing of the seasons does not obey human conventions and rules.

c. the speaker has a limited control of English.

d. the speaker has never experienced certain seasons.

2. “she laughed his joy she cried his grief” (14). The poetic technique demonstrated in this line is

a. repetition. c. slant rhyme.

b. parallelism. d. cataloging.

3. The idea of contrasting (or opposite) ideas is used throughout the poem. What is the effect of these contrasting ideas?

a. Life is full of contradictions but continues anyway

b. Life is confusing and not worth exploring

c. Life is difficult and pointless

d. Life is without joy and will end soon

**POEM 11: “Poetry” by Marianne Moore, p. 964**

1. The connotative use of the word “fiddle” in line 1 is used to suggest

a. an actual violin. The speaker likes music.

b. the ridiculousness of poetry. It is unimportant when compared to life.

c. the musical sound of poetry. It is vitally important for life.

d. the difficulty of writing poetry. Like a musical instrument, one most practice it.

2. What does the imagery of lines 4-5 demonstrate?

a. The excitement that reading poetry can bring c. the speaker’s fear that no one will read her poems.

b. The joy that comes from writing poetry. d. the speaker’s confusion over what to write next.

3. In the speaker’s opinion, “half poets” are responsible for (21)

a. some of the best poetry written today. c. critics who dislike her poetry.

b. bad poetry that doesn’t appeal to its readers. d. anyone who writes poetry without a college degre.