**Understanding a Poem**

Title of Poem: Poet:

Complete the following analysis for an Alice Walker poem of your choice. Use quotes to support your answers where appropriate.

1. Who is the speaker? Do you know? If so, how do you know?
2. Is the speaker addressing a specific person(s)? A wider audience? Both?
3. Paraphrase the poem: your paraphrase should be 4-6 phrases that summarize each section/stanza of the poem.
4. Provide 2 examples of figurative language: a) the example b) identify poetic device c) explain how the device enhances the poem’s effectiveness.

Example 1:

Example 2:

1. What connotative words does the poet use? What meanings do those words suggest?
2. What is the TONE of the poem? Refer to your tone word list for suggestions.
3. What was your response to the poem on your initial reading? What is your response on closer examination?
4. How does the TITLE embody key ideas within the poem?
5. Choose two examples of DICTION (word choice) that enhance *tone or theme* and explain how they enhance your understanding and author’s purpose.
6. What key lines embody the theme of the poem? Copy those lines and paraphrase them. Explain the theme, both contextually and for the poem itself, and then as a universal truth or idea.