**Poetry Questions ENC1141 P. Garrett**

1. Paraphrase the poem. Explain each stanza/section.
2. Identify the speaker of the poem. Underline words and phrases that help characterize the speaker and bring out the speaker’s concerns. Describe the traits of the speaker and of any other characters in the poem.
3. Describe the situation of the poem: where the speaker is, what time of day it is, what season of the year, what historical occasion, to whom the speaker is speaking, why.
4. State the issues that concern the speaker (what the poem is about). Explain the speaker’s ideas (the themes of the poems). Note any changes in the speaker’s mood or ideas as the poem moves from unit to unit. What is the speaker trying to accomplish?
5. Describe the speaker’s tone (angry, lyrical, hopeful, butter, nostalgic, sarcastic, compassionate, admiring, sorrowful, amused, etc.). Note any changes of tone in the poem.
6. Mark and explain any literary terms/figurative language in the poem. See list given in class for terms and definitions.
7. Underline words that seem especially meaningful or well chosen. For each word, explain denotations and connotations.
8. Mark the descriptive images. For each image, name the sense appealed to. What is the dominant impression these images make?
9. Mark the rhyme scheme of the poem.
10. Draw horizontal lines between each division or unit of the poem. In a sonnet, for example mark divisions between quatrains, couplets, octaves and sestets.