**Directions:** Today you are going to write **2 poems** using at least 2 of the templates below.

1. For the first poem, you will choose a character from one the novels, short stories, or poems we have studied this semester and write the poem about that character. Try to leave the character’s name out of the actual poem, so that when you read it to the class, we can try and guess who you are writing about!
2. For the second poem, you will write about yourself!

You must use a different template for each of the poems you write and your poems must be hand written. **Also,** you must incorporate **at least 4 different literary devices** across your two poems. (Look at your literary devices handouts, worksheets we have done in class,examples from *Beloved*, etc.)

**Option #1: I AM Poem**

FIRST STANZA
I am (two special characteristics you have)
I wonder (something you are actually curious about)
I hear (an imaginary sound)
I see (an imaginary sight)
I want (an actual desire)
I am (the first line of the poem repeated)

SECOND STANZA

I pretend (something you actually pretend to do)
I feel (a feeling about something imaginary)
I touch (an imaginary touch)
I worry (something that really bothers you)
I cry (something that makes you very sad)
I am (the first line of the poem repeated)

THIRD STANZA
I understand (something you know is true)
I say (something you believe in)
I dream (something you actually dream about)
I try (something you really make an effort about)
I hope (something you actually hope for)
I am (the first line of the poem repeated)

**Option #1 Example:**

I AM

I am a nutty guy who likes dolphins.
I wonder what I, and the world, will be like in the year 2000.
I hear silence pulsing in the middle of the night.
I see a dolphin flying up to the sky.
I want the adventure of life before it passes me by.
I am a nutty guy who likes dolphins.

I pretend that I'm the ruler of the world.
I feel the weight of the world on my shoulders.
I touch the sky, the stars, the moon, and all the planets as
representatives of mankind.
I worry about the devastation of a nuclear holocaust.
I cry for all the death and poverty in the world
I am a nutty guy who likes dolphins.

I understand the frustration of not being able to do something easily.
I say that we are all equal.
I dream of traveling to other points on the earth.
I try to reach out to poor and starving children.
I hope that mankind will be at peace and not die out.
I am a nutty guy who likes dolphins.

--SANDY MAAS

**Option #2: Just Because Poem**

Just because I'm
Doesn't mean
Doesn't mean
And doesn't mean
Just because
Doesn't mean
Doesn't mean
Doesn't mean
Just because
Doesn't mean
Doesn't mean
Doesn't mean
Just because
(Question)
(Question)
(Question)
(Statement)

**Option #2 Example:**

Just because I'm half Japanese
I'm not a California roll
I'm not a Sony TV or radio
I'm not a Toyota or a Nissan
Just because I'm half Japanese
I don't like being considered one race
I do like being considered a Jew
I'm not a "mixed up person"
Just because I'm half Japanese
I do like things that you do like to do
I do like and play basketball
Just because I'm half Japanese
What is race?
Is there a thing called race?
Can't you just like me because I'm me?
I think so.

**Option #3: Four Word Poem**

First word describing character or feelings about character

These three lines should

Describe this one word or show an example

Of when character felt this one word

Second word describing character or feelings about character

These three lines should

Describe this one word or show an example

Of when character felt this one word

Third word

These three lines should

Describe this one word or show an example

Of when character felt this one word

Fourth word

These three lines should

Describe this one word or show an example

Of when character felt this one word

These last four lines

Will combine all

Four word together

To conclude the poem and how the character feels

**Option #3 Example**

Despair.

 Falling deeper & deeper each day.

Wondering what else I'll lose

and wondering if it'll go away.

Denial

It's something I sometimes feel.

That the pain I have inside

could not possibly be real.

 Sadness.

 Not something that disappears

despite what I wish for

 I have never ending tears.

Blame.

That's what I often do

I will never forgive myself.

My heart's permanently broken in two.

These four simple words

to describe my feelings inside.

Wishing I could crawl into myself to stay forever and hide.

There are days I wonder if these feelings will go. If it's possible for me to not feel so low.