**English 9H Poetry Formal Analysis**

**FOCUS –** Pick a poem you like. You may ask family, friends, or others for suggestions. This is an academic project, however, so you must pick a poem that has a certain amount of complexity and depth to it. You may not choose a poem by Shel Silverstein, Ogden Nash, Dr. Seuss, Jack Prelutsky, etc. The poem you choose must be a minimum of 14 lines. You may use the poem you read for the class if it fits the requirements here.

**ANALYZE** – Complete the five steps on “How to Explicate Poem” (in your packet). This part must be handwritten, and may not be typed.

**FORMAL ANALYSIS AND REFLECTION** – Write a response/analysis of the poem, following the guidelines here:

* the first paragraph should explain the literal meaning of the poem (in essence, a summary of the poem)
* the second paragraph should explain any important elements of the poem (this could include figurative language, imagery, sound effects, etc.—see the packet of poetic devices). You must include a discussion of at least three important elements.
* the third paragraph should explain the “big picture” of the poem (be careful to differentiate between theme and big picture!)
* the fourth paragraph should be your reaction to the poem (how do you connect with or relate to the ideas in the poem; why does the poem appeal to you?)

Your written reflection should follow MLA format.

Rough Draft due:

Final Draft due:

\*\* Be sure to attach a copy of the poem you’ve chosen to your rough draft and final draft.\*\*