**Unit Formative Assignments:**

**1. Complete the Poetry Elements Chart:** Define all elements of poetry. Use your literature book, dictionary, or poetry site. Make sure you follow all directions on the chart. Your examples can come from poems we studied in class, poems you have read on you own, or original poems of your own creation. This will be included in your portfolio.

**2. Complete a TPCASTT Analysis:** Follow the instructions on the TPCASTT handout to analyze a poem we have studied in class.

**3. Personification Poem**: In his poem, "Out, Out," Frost gives a buzz saw human-like characteristics.  Effectively, the saw can be viewed as a symbol for danger, tragedy, or brutality of life.  Plath also uses personification in the poem, "Mushrooms."  As the speaker in the poem, mushrooms seem to assume quiet power, self-respect, and determination.  For this assignment, you need to compose a poem in which an ordinary object has human-like characteristics.   ***Here are the parameters****:*  
-10 line minimum  
-title required  
-at least one object or animal is personified*in order to bring another level meaning into the poem*(for instance, the saw is both a saw and a symbol for the brutality and danger in life).  
  
4. **Responding to T.S. Eliot's "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock."**  On page 713 of your red textbook, answer questions 1-10.

5. **Imagery Poem**:  In his poem, "The Love Song Of J. Alfred Prufrock," T.S. Eliot uses different forms of imagery to get across certain emotions and feelings.  Since "It's impossible to say just what I mean," Eliot tries to convey meaning by appealing to his readers' physical senses.  For this assignment, you need to compose a poem that uses varied forms of imagery (descriptions of sounds, smells, tastes, touch, and sights) in order to describe a particular emotion or metaphysical (intangible) concept.  
  
**Here are the parameters:**  
-At least 15 lines, three stanzas (minimum)  
-Use at least two different kinds of imagery  
-titled  
 **6. Found Poem:**Found poems take existing texts and refashion them, reorder them, and present them as poems. The literary equivalent of a collage, found poetry is often made from newspaper articles, street signs, graffiti, speeches, letters, or even other poems.  Poets, including T.S. Eliot and William Carlos Williams, have also incorporated found elements in their poetry.  
  
The writer Annie Dillard has said that turning a text into a poem doubles that poem's context. "The original meaning remains intact," she writes, "but now it swings between two poles" (from poets.org).    
  
**Here are the parameters:**  
-Refashion, reorder, and present a text that you select into a meaningful poem.    
-As always, your decisions as you refashion the poem should be intentional and meant to add to the overall meaning of the poem.  Consider: What do you want your poem to say?  How do you want readers to react?  
-You decide if you want to add your own words into the found poetry.  You can either only use the found text's words, or you can intermix your own.  
-*Your poem must contain at least 1 example of some type of figurative language.*  
-At least 10 lines (minimum)  
-typed   
-titled

**7.  The Tongue Twister**Your assignment is to create a tongue twister out of repeated words or sounds.  Try a little of each if you can:   
• Use alliteration such as: Crisp crusts crackle crunchily.   
• Use consonance such as: Lily ladles little Letty's lentil soup.   
• Use assonance such as: Old oily Ollie oils old oily autos.   
Answer these: What makes some harder to say?  Would you want your poem to be hard to read? Why?   
  
Try to avoid tongue twisters that will make your classmates say naughty, inappropriate things:   
I am not the pheasant plucker,   
I'm the pheasant plucker's mate.   
I am only plucking pheasants   
'cause the pheasant plucker's late.   
   
Tongue twisters taken from: [http://www.geocities.com/Athens/8136/tonguetwisters.html](http://www.geocities.com/Athens/8136/tonguetwisters.html" \t "_blank) **8. List Poem**This poem assignment is inspired by Walt Whitman's tendency towards making lists.  You can take this assignment in a number of directions, but you can also model your poem after "I Hear America Singing" (1 line intro, list/pattern, 1 line conclusion).  You could even begin with "I hear America..." and then replace "singing" with some other verb.  
**Here are the parameters:**   
10-15 lines  
Use *repetition* to create *a pattern*among the lines by beginning each line in a similar way (see "I Hear America Singing").  
-Use as much descriptive imagery as possible.  
 **9. Photograph-Inspired/Postcard Poem**

Your inspiration for this assignment is a printable picture/photograph/image of your choice. You have more freedom with this poem than any of the others.

**Here are the parameters:**

-10-15 lines

-Use and incorporate as much as you can of what you have learned during this unit.