



8th Grade Poetry Common Core Assessment: Three Samples

After reading each of the following poems, complete the included response frames. Remember, when completing response frames, copy the entire bold section, including punctuation. Points will be deducted for errors.

“The Secret Heart” by Robert P. Tristram Coffin (p.811)

1) The father in this poem feels _____ toward his son. I know because he _____

2) The father does not show his feelings for his son openly. One line that shows the reader this is _____.

3) I think the reason the father feels he must check on his son secretly is because _____.

4) Two symbols that represent the father’s feelings are _____, and _____.

“Those Winter Sundays” by Robert Hayden (p.400)

5) The family in this poem treats each other _____. I know because the poet _____.

6) Two nice things the father does for his family is he _____ and _____.

7) **Why is the father's love in this poem austere and lonely?** (Hint: use the margin and then reread the poem)

8) **The fathers in these two poems are both _____.** They are similar because they both _____.

"Taught Me Purple" by Evelyn Tooley Hunt (p. 398)

9) **The mother in this poem lived a _____ life.** I can tell because in line # _____ she says _____.

10) Reread lines 5-8. **One way a parent "holds up" their children is by _____.**

11) **In this poem, the colors purple and gold represent _____.** The mother was like these colors because _____.

12) **What is being a parent like, according to these three poems?** (be detailed, and mention at least two poems)

BONUS CHALLENGE QUESTION!

13) **All of these poems show that the speaker has matured from childhood because he/she _____.**
