**Transcendentalism Poetry Project**

AP Objective: Students will analyze and interpret good writing by studying the author’s use of rhetorical strategies and techniques. VBCPS Objective: The student will read and analyze relationships among American literature, history, and culture. Student will read and critique a variety of poetry.

**Directions**: Student and partner will construct a power point which demonstrates a thorough analysis of a poem by Walt Whitman or Emily Dickinson and shows an understanding of the inherent transcendental influences.

Step 1: Pre-research

Using the list of quotations from Emerson and Thoreau, try to develop a list of characteristics of Transcendentalism in American literature.

Step 2: Poem

Using the poetry.org site (<http://www.poets.org/page.php/prmID/58>) pick a poem from either Walt Whitman or Emily Dickinson. Make sure Mr. Stravino approves and that you “sign-up” so there will not be duplicates.

Step 3: TPCASTT

Clearly show each step in your analysis through a TPCASTT. Remember, theme is always a complete and specific statement.

Step 4: Transcendental Characteristics

Clearly articulate which tenets of American transcendentalism are primarily being emphasized in your poem and ***explain.***

Step 5: Make the connection

How do the transcendental tenets of your poem connect to contemporary society. Explain.

You will receive 5 points for thorough completion of each step for a total of 25 points. Like grenades and horseshoes, there is no partial credit.

Student #1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student #2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title of poem: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_