Poems by Maya Angelou

18 pts possible with annotations

Poems should be read over at least THREE times before you attempt to Interpret them. <u>MAKE ANNOTATIONS ON EACH OF THE POEMS</u>. THOSE ANNOTATIONS WILL BE GRADED. ANNOTATIONS ARE WORTH 6 pts.

"Alone"

1. What is the THEME of this poem? 1 pt

2. Give textual support for your theme. 1 pt

"Willie"

3. Interpret each of the following lines:

"Solitude was the climate in his head." 1pt

"Emptiness was the partner in his bed" 1pt

"Pain echoed in the steps of his tread" 1pt

"The Lesson"

Poems should be read over at least THREE times before you attempt to interpret them.   This poem is pretty complex so don't rush.

1. What kind of a life do you think the narrator lived? 1pts

2. How would you characterize the narrator? What do we know about her personality? 1 pt

3. GIVE textual support from the poem that you used to base your characterization. 1 pt

4. Why do you think the poem is called "The Lesson"? 1pt

5. What other title would fit the poem? Be sure to take the message and tone into account. 1 pt.

6. EXPLAIN WHY you think that title would fit. 1pt.

7. What do you think the overall tone of the poem is? (Note: this is a tricky question. Read it over carefully. Don't ask me. Hint: the ending of a poem is generally the most significant.) **1 pts**

   a) hopeful and triumphant
   b) hurt and depressed
   c) happy and carefree

Staple poems WITH annotations to this question packet.

Make sure everyone's names are on this packet.