Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**RL 5.5 Poetry Practice**

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| **Still I Rise**  BY MAYA ANGELOU  You may write me down in history  With your bitter, twisted lies,  You may trod me in the very dirt  But still, like dust, I'll rise.  Does my sassiness upset you?  Why are you beset with gloom?  ’Cause I walk like I've got oil wells  Pumping in my living room.  Just like moons and like suns,  With the certainty of tides,  Just like hopes springing high,  Still I'll rise.  Did you want to see me broken?  Bowed head and lowered eyes?  Shoulders falling down like teardrops,  Weakened by my soulful cries?  Does my haughtiness offend you?  Don't you take it awful hard  ’Cause I laugh like I've got gold mines  Diggin’ in my own backyard.  You may shoot me with your words,  You may cut me with your lies,  You may kill me with your hatefulness,  But still, like air, I’ll rise. | How does the poet use repetition to give her poem structure? What is an example of repetition she uses? |
| How are stanzas 2 and 5 similar? |
| Why would the author include the following lines in her poems? How do they contribute to the overall meaning in her poem?   * “’Cause I walk like I've got oil wells Pumping in my living room.” * “’Cause I laugh like I've got gold mines Diggin’ in my own backyard.” |
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| How would this poem be different if it had been written as a play? What would be similar or different? |