

Name:

Sophomore English Honors

Poem of the week #2: Due: Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>

### Directions

Overview: Read the poem first to enjoy it. Read it straight on through, preferably aloud. Then read it again and again, looking for any of the following literary devices or features:

- Language: tone, style, diction (word choice)
- Conventions: punctuation, grammar
- Devices: imagery, metaphor, symbols, repetition, etc.
- Design: structure, organization, stanzas. Layout of stanzas
- Themes: ideas that run throughout the poem
- Connections: Does the poem connect or allude to literature, history, popular culture, art, etc.?
- Purpose: Is the poet trying to explain? Define? Persuade? What, why, and how do they do this?

You must show evidence of close reading: for example, underlined words, comments, questions, connections, suspected patterns.

You must word-process/type a response to the poem and turn this response in with the poem. Your response must be one perfectly written response (not a loosely written journal-type response) with a clear assertion and supporting details. Your paragraph must include quotations from the poem. These quotations must be embedded, not left to stand alone.

### Sonrisas

I live in a doorway  
between two rooms. I hear  
quiet clicks, cups of black  
coffee, click, click like facts  
                    budgets, tenure, curriculum,  
from careful women in crisp beige  
suits, quick beige smiles  
that seldom sneak into their eyes.

I peek  
in the other room señoras  
in faded dresses stir sweet  
milk coffee, laughter whirls  
with steam from fresh *tamales*  
                    *sh, sh, mucho ruido,\**  
they scold one another,  
press their lips, trap smiles  
in their dark, Mexican eyes.

--Pat Mora  
From *Borders*, 1986.

\* lots of noise