

## English III: American Literature

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

### *Poetic Responses to Walt Whitman's "I Hear America Singing"*

#### **OBJECTIVE**

After reading both selections provided, pick one of the two poems to analyze. Answer the following question in full sentences.

Langston Hughes, "I, Too"

1. Why did you chose to analyze Hughes' work?
2. Considering what the class discussed last time regarding Transcendentalism, how is the speaker's description of being the "darker brother" in line 2 ironic?
3. Why is the speaker sent to the kitchen? What does this mean?
4. While the speaker opens with "I, too, sing America," he closes by asserting that "[he] too, [is] America." What is he emphasizing?
5. Who is being addressed specifically in the Hughes' poem?

Angela de Hoyo, "To Walt Whitman"

1. Why did you chose to analyze De Hoyo's poem?
2. Considering what the class discussed last time regarding Transcendentalism, how is the speaker's tone of voice ironic?
3. Why is the speaker asking Whitman to see the "open road" in line 8? What would be achieved?
4. What is the connection between the speaker calling herself "Native Amerindian" and the use of the image of a "*chicana* guitar"?
5. Overall, what advice is she offering Walt Whitman?