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

**A Noiseless Patient Spider**

By Walt Whitman

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| A NOISELESS, patient spider, |   |
| I mark’d, where, on a little promontory, it stood, isolated; |   |
| Mark’d how, to explore the vacant, vast surrounding, |   |
| It launch’d forth filament, filament, filament, out of itself; |   |
| Ever unreeling them—ever tirelessly speeding them. | *5* |
|    |  |
| And you, O my Soul, where you stand, |   |
| Surrounded, surrounded, in measureless oceans of space, |   |
| Ceaselessly musing, venturing, throwing,—seeking the spheres, to connect them; |   |
| Till the bridge you will need, be form’d—till the ductile anchor hold; |   |
| Till the gossamer thread you fling, catch somewhere, O my Soul. |  |

Answer the questions on a separate sheet of paper. Staple the two sheets together to turn in. **DUE: 11/4/14**

1. TPCASTT The poem
2. What is the overall tone of the poem?
3. Compare the use of parallelism in lines 5 and 8. What do these parallel elements suggest about the relationship between the spider and the speaker?
4. List examples of alliteration
5. What affect does the use of repetition have on the poem
6. Describe the use of imagery.
7. List three words that you don’t know and look up their definitions.
8. Write your overall impression of this poem. What are your thoughts? What do you like or dislike about Whitman’s poem?