We wrote this poem “on the spot” in class. You might like the way you write it immediately, or you can decide to edit it later to become what you want.

1- Write a line about an outdoor setting.

Envision this setting as you write the rest of the poem.

2- Write a line about the weather.

3- Write a line about animals (or the absence of animals).

4- Write a line about plants (or the absence of plants).

5- Finish the poem.

Some ways to finish a poem:

If a poem is a gift you give to someone, the last line is like the bow on the gift.

It is the big finish or the last impression that you make on your reader.

* End with a question, especially if you want your reader to keep thinking about your topic.
* Write a big contrast to the lines above it. For example, if the first four lines were about the aftermath of a
* forest fire, then the last line could be about a seedling starting to emerge.
* Make your final comment. What is the last thing you want to say in this poem?
* Compare. For example, if you have been writing about a paradise in the first four lines, compare it in the
* last line to your reality.

(When we say “line”, you are not limited to only one. If you have more words to write, just continue writing lines.)

Remember to use imagery (descriptive words and phrases that recreate sensory experiences for the reader). Imagery is composed of more than just your sense of sight. Beyond what you see, what do you hear/smell/feel/taste?