Name: Period:

“What is Left” Literary Analysis

First carefully read and annotate the poem “What is Left” by Clint Smith. Then complete the chart below to analyze the different literary devices used by the author to convey the speaker’s attitude toward his subject.

\*Remember the speaker of a poem is the voice of the poem created by the author.

*Task: What is the speaker’s complex attitude toward the subject?*

The speaker feels both \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

| **Device** | **Quote From the Text** | **What this quote reveals about the speaker’s attitude**  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Example****Imagery** | *“Did the ocean/ intend to swallow the city”* | *The image of the ocean “swallowing” and consuming the city reveals the speaker’s feelings of fear and concern during the storm. The speaker felt helpless due to the immense natural power of the ocean.* |
| **Figurative Language** |  |  |
| **Imagery** |  |  |
| **Diction** |  |  |
| **Syntax** (Enjambment, repetition, parallel structure, stanza lay out) |  |  |

Reflection: Why do you believe the author Clint Smith used this unique structure to discuss Hurricane Katrina? What is the effect of the structure on the audience and the poem’s mood?