Internal Citations – Poetry (MLA Format)

To Begin: Go to http://www.shepherd.edu/scwcweb/hndpoetry.htm and review the handout “Quoting Poetry within a Paper using MLA Documentation.”

Next: Refer to the handout and to Sylvia Plath’s poem, “Metaphors” (below) to answer the following questions.

Metaphors
(by Sylvia Plath, 1932-1963)

I’m a riddle in nine syllables
An elephant, a ponderous house,
A melon strolling on two tendrils.
O red fruit, ivory, fine timbers!
This loaf’s big with its yeasty rising.

Money’s new minted in this fat purse.
I’m a means, a stage, a cow in calf.
I’ve eaten a bag of green apples,
Boarded the train there’s no getting off.

1. On the lines below, indicate the correct formatting and parenthetical citation for lines 2-4 of “Metaphors”:

________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

2. On the lines below, following the signal phrase that has already been written for you, indicate the correct formatting and parenthetical citation for lines 4-7 of “Metaphors.”

Although the tone of the poem is somewhat ambivalent, the speaker’s positive feelings are conveyed most clearly in the following lines:

________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

If you have any questions at this point, feel free to review your work with an instructor or tutor. Otherwise, complete the DLA by answering the questions on the reverse.
3. According to the handout, when should you NOT use an ellipsis (...)?

4. According to the handout, when SHOULD you use an ellipsis?

5. Cite lines 1-2 and 7-8 (that is, omit lines 3-6) from the following poem. (Refer to the handout under the section, "If you remove one or more full line ...")

   Simile
   (by N. Scott Momaday, b. 1934)

   What did we say to each other
   that now we are as the deer
   who walk in single file
   with heads high
   with ears forward
   with eyes watchful
   with hooves always placed on firm ground
   in whose limbs there is latent flight

6. How do you cite several single words or phrases from a poem when including them in a single sentence?

7. If you have any questions, please write them below, prior to reviewing your work with a tutor or instructor.

When you have finished, review your work with a tutor or instructor.

Tutor / Instructor Signature  Date