**EXAMPLE**

**“I am” Poem (Topic Person, Place or Event): The Indian Removal Act**

**Directions** – Take on the part of the person, place or event you were given, and on a separate sheet of paper create an “I am” poem by completing each prompt below as if you were that object. The first and last “I am” lines should be the same (i.e. “I am George Washington”):

 I am the Indian Removal Act

 I wonder why I am forcing Native Americans to leave land that was theirs.

 I hear the cries of families as they are forced to leave their homes.

I see the dry and desolate land in the American southwest that I am forcing Native Americans to move to.

 I am what many settlers in America wanted at this time.

 I pretend that the Native American tribes agree with me and want this to happen.

 I feel as if I am taking something that is not mine to take.

I touch the lives of thousands of people from many different tribes; such as the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek and Seminole.

 I worry that I will forever damage these tribes.

 I cry when I hear the cries of many along the Trail of Tears.

 I am the cause of this sadness.

 I understand that this may cause bloodshed for those not willing to comply.

 I say that I will try to help ease the pain by paying these tribes for their move.

 I dream that this will be a good move for America and these tribes.

 I try not to think about the impact this will have on these tribes.

I hope conflict caused by me will be brief, and relations will be repaired between the effected tribes and America.

 I am the Indian Removal Act.