**Day 3 Seminar Questions**

**Directions:** On a separate pieces of paper, choose **THREE** of the questions below to answer in preparation for tomorrow’s seminar. You WILL be able to use these notes and EVERYONE will be required to talk! Additionally, each comment you make must also include **textual evidence or specific examples** to support your points. You will be expected to come prepared with all notes and poem handouts from the last two class periods!

1. What struck you/surprised you/intrigued you from the poems we have read in the past three class periods?
2. What struck you/surprised you/intrigued you from the history we have learned in the past three class periods? In what way did the history help/influence your understanding of the poems?
3. How has the violent history of the Caribbean influenced its representation in the poetry we have read?
4. How is the Caribbean described in the poems? How is the idea of “place” important to understanding them?
5. In our *Elements of Literature* textbooks, there are two examples of Caribbean poetry included: the essay “On Seeing England for the First Time” by Jamaica Kincaid and a short poem entitled “The Virgins” by Derek Walcott. Both of these poems are included in the section “Literature of Africa and The Middle East.”

What do you make of this? Given the Caribbean’s undeniable connection to Africa, to what literary tradition does it belong? How do you know?
6. What are Aimee Cesaire and Derek Walcott’s attitudes toward the subjects, particularly the Caribbean, in the poems? How do you know?
7. How has this unit influenced/changed how you feel about poetry? Be specific!