



THE LIT LEAGUE

TELL YOUR STORY

MEET THE FOUNDERS



SAILEE



ROBIN

THE LIT LEAGUE

A PROGRAM DEDICATED TO THE
POWER OF SPOKEN WORD POETRY

curriculum

- 1 classical professional poem
- 1 response interpreted poem

SPOKEN-WORD POETRY

what?

poetry performed aloud with tone, voice, and emotion
- explores identity, experiences, and social justice

who?

any and everyone is welcome to spoken-word poetry
- originated with adult jazz poets in the 1920s

why?

builds confidence and connections through shared,
lived experiences of humans
- combines art with actions



TUPAC



SILVIA PLATH

CLASSIC VS RESPONSE

classic

POEM WRITTEN BY A
PROFESSIONAL POET

response

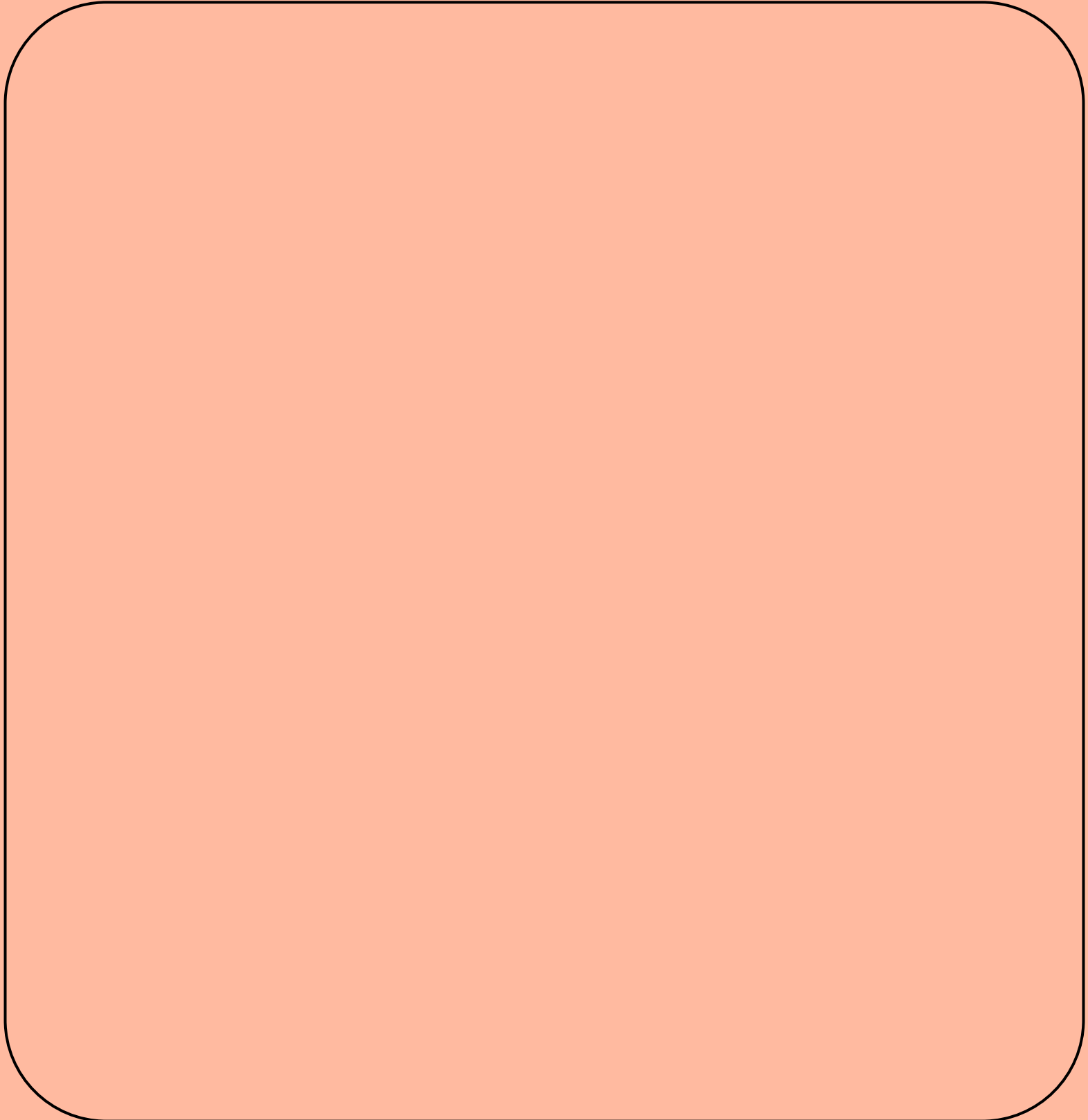
POEM CREATED FROM
PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

ANTHOLOGY



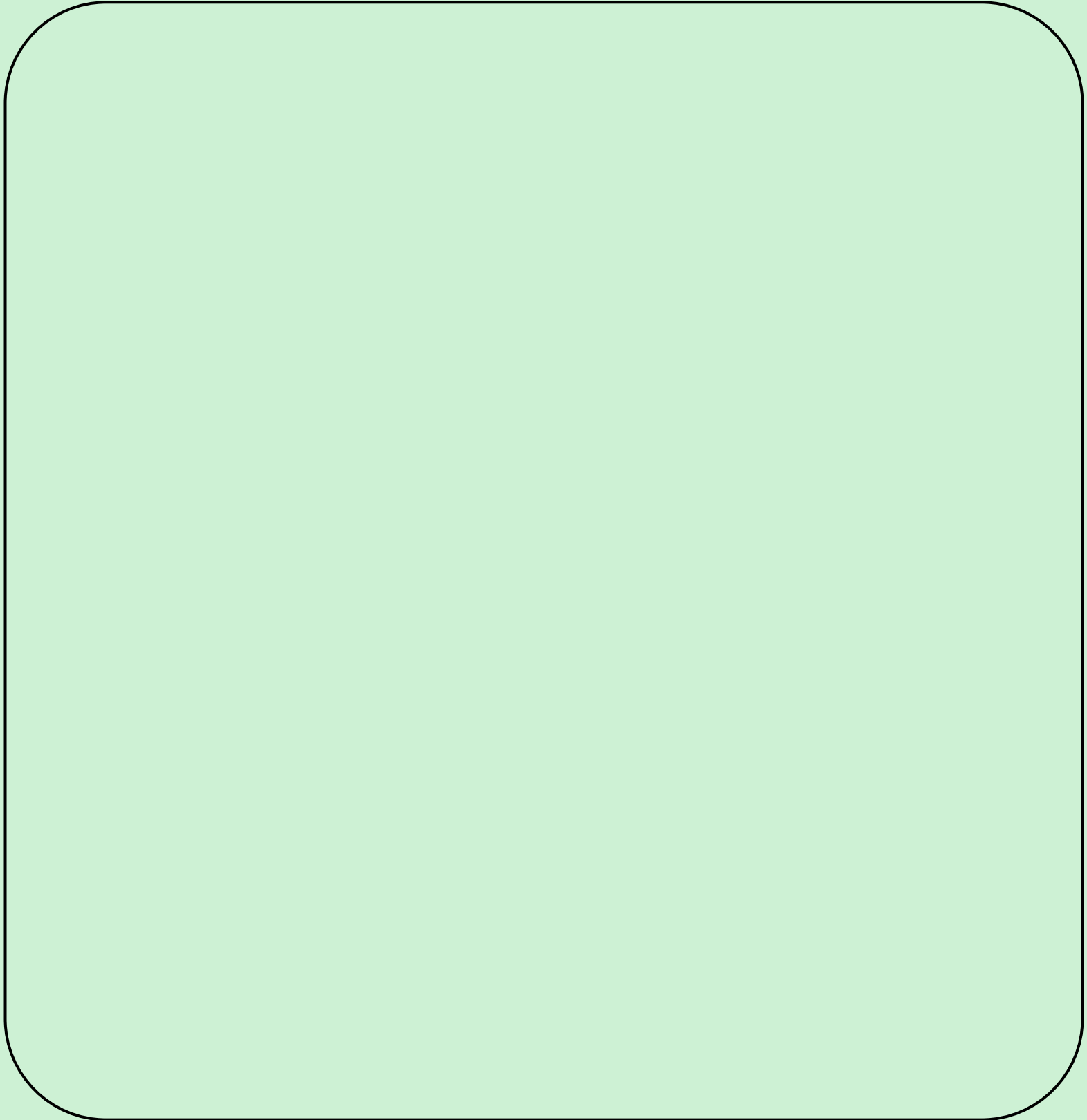
REFLECTION

- 1) what sentences/phrases called out to you?
- 2) what stood out about this performance?
- 3) why did you enjoy the rhythm/music of the poem?

A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners, intended for student reflection. The box is white with a thin black border and is positioned below the reflection questions.

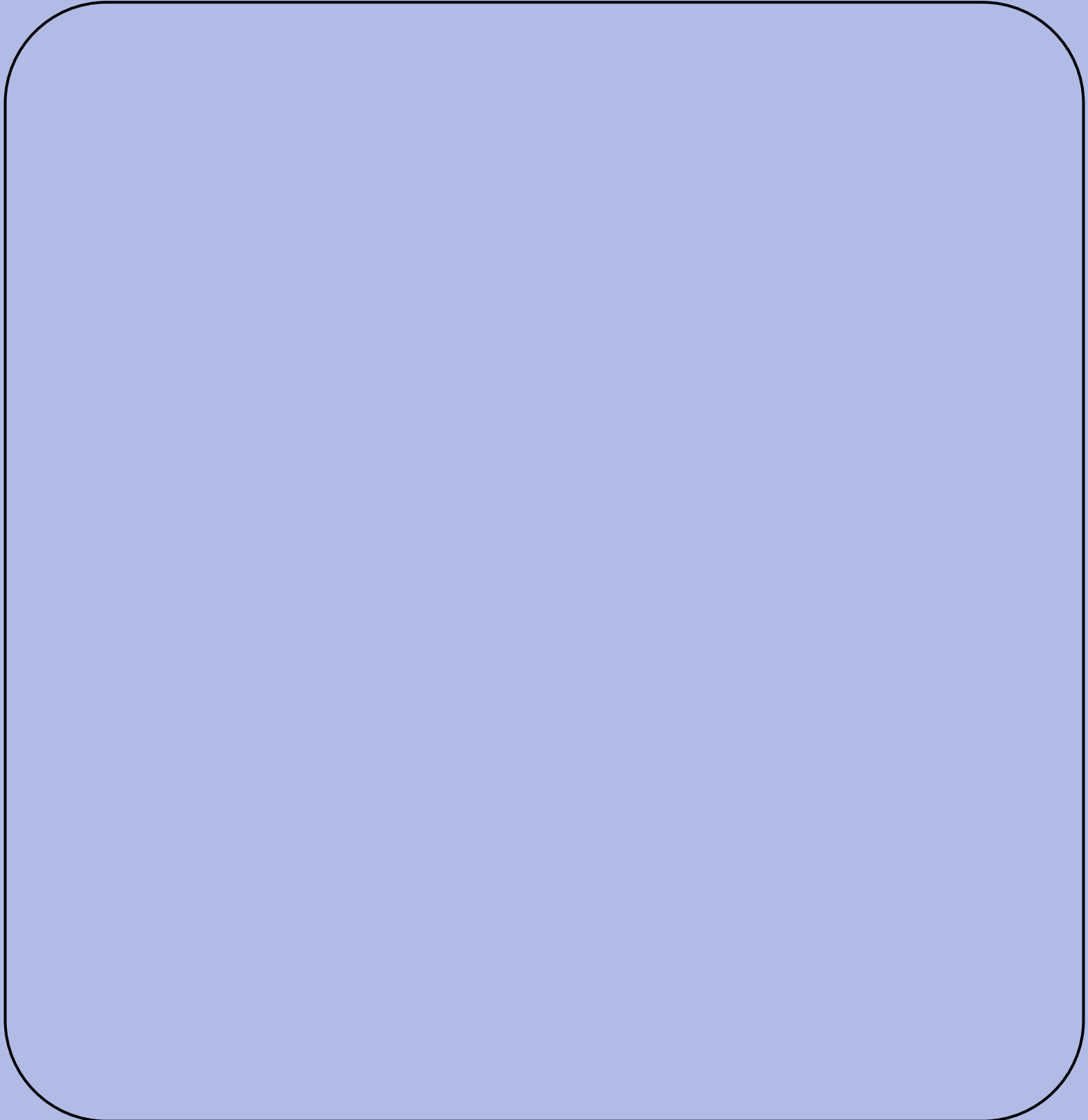
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MAKING ANNOTATIONS

- highlight structure: stanza, line breaks, rhyme, repetition, and punctuation
- highlight linking words/images/lines you link
 - underline things you don't understand
 - write some questions.
- look up words you don't know

sample: annotated classic

Postscript By Marie Howe

What we did to the earth, we did to our daughters
one after the other.

What we did to the trees, we did to our elders
stacked in their wheelchairs by the lunchroom door.

What we did to our daughters, we did to our sons
calling out for their mothers.

What we did to the trees, what we did to the earth,
we did to our sons, to our daughters.

What we did to the cow, to the pig, to the lamb,
we did to the earth, butchered and milked it.

Few of us knew what the bird calls meant
or what the fires were saying.

We took of earth and took and took, and the earth
seemed not to mind

until one of our daughters shouted: it was right
in front of you, right in front of your eyes

and you didn't see.
The air turned red. The ocean grew teeth.

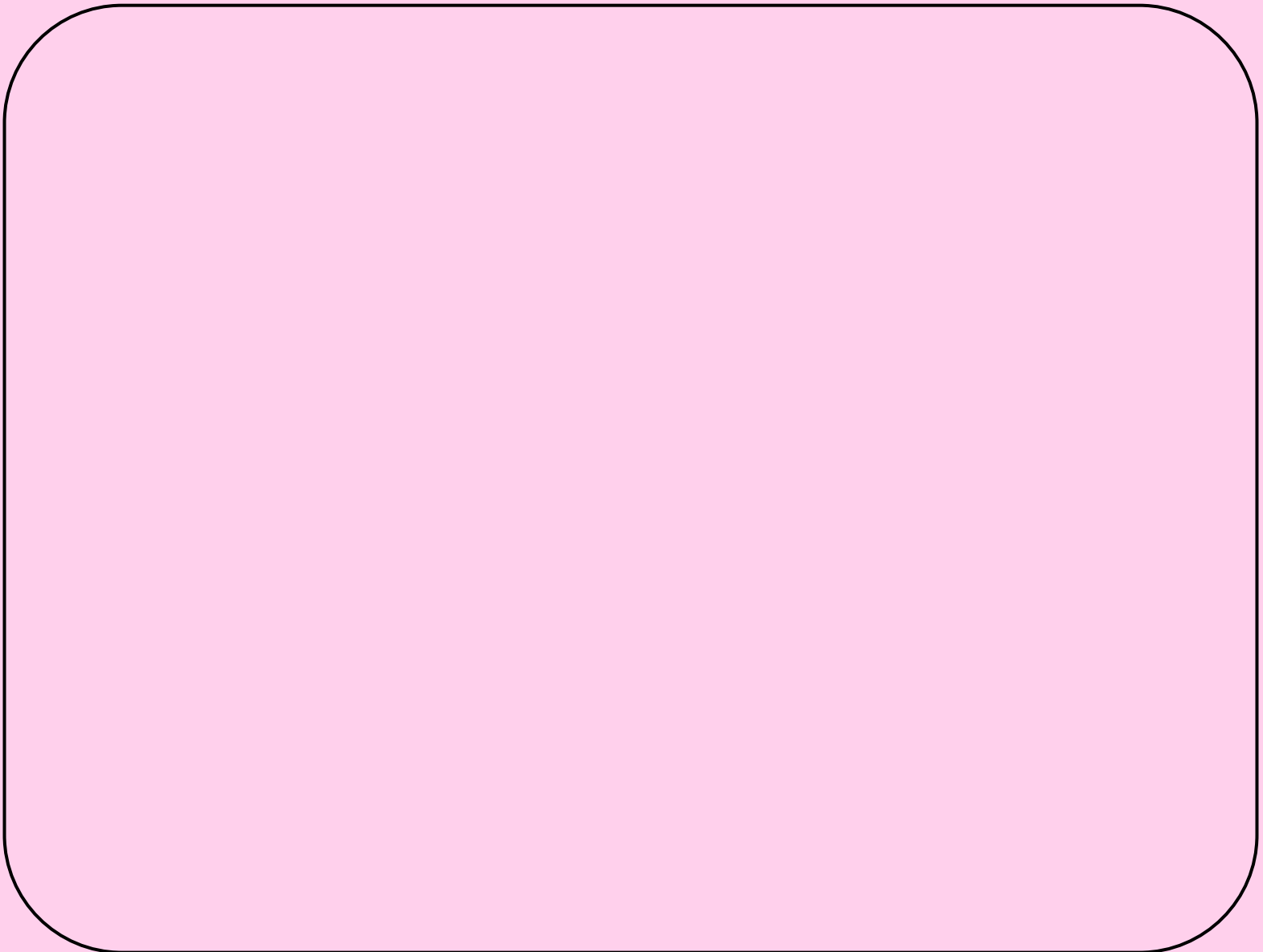


NOW, YOUR TURN!

considerations:

- why did you choose this poem?
- what in the poem can you relate to?
- how does the poem remind you of yourself?
- do you agree with the poem's message?
- how could this poem help others?

annotate your poem:



CLASSIC TO RESPONSE

precedent to present

- write about the same subject
 - write about a story or memory the poem brings up
 - argue with the poem
- use the same structure or rhyme scheme
- write your favorite line from the classic poem as your first line and start from there
- use your own native tongue to emphasize or strongly express a line or thought

RESPONSE POEM:

write your own:

reflection:

REVISE BY READING IT OUT LOUD SEVERAL TIMES:
DOES IT HAVE AN EMOTIONAL RESPONSE?

SPEAKING POETRY *out loud!*

- 1) use a colloquial voice:
spoken-word poetry is meant to
be a very honest conversation
with someone
- 2) use volume and speed: increase in
volume and speed in the most
important and powerful parts of your
poem
- 3) tell your poem like a story:
rise and fall
- 4) be true to your poetic voice:
you can add rap and beats!
your regular voice is beautiful
as it is and it's okay to be
uncomfortable. being scared is
part of being brave and we can
see that when you perform.

you got this!



THE DRAGON KIM
FOUNDATION

THANK YOU SO MUCH!