**Notes on World Literature—Unit 8**

**Stopping by the Woods on a Snowy Evening**

* Robert Frost struggled some with depression; his life was filled with grief and loss, which sometimes emerges in his poetry; we see a hint of it here.
* Read poem together
* Why does the speaker stop by the snowy woods?
* What kind of mood is felt in this poem?
* What does “sleep” refer to? Could it have two levels of meanings?
* What attracts the speaker to the woods?
* Go over questions in the book

**On the Grasshopper and the Cricket**

* Forms of sonnets
* John Keats
* Put the first line in your own words: The poetry of earth is never dead: The world or creation or nature is continuously expressing its beauty, music, and glory
* Keats picks a couple of very simple examples to support his point; the implication is that if these two little creatures never stop singing, then how much more will other parts of creation also express themselves
* The two parts of the sonnet complement each other; they contrast with each other in that one is about the hottest time of year and the other the coldest, but the reinforce each other by making the same point

**That Time of Year**

* William Shakespeare
* Put a paraphrase or summary for each stanza on the board
* Ponder the meaning of the couplet: Maybe you have grandparents that are in this stage of their lives, there’s older people at church and in our community…in reality, we don’t know how long we’ll have any of our family and friends. This poem is a reminder to use the time we have to love them.
* Limericks and Haikus—Get students to write a number of original pieces and read them in class