

**“To America” Analysis**  
**James Weldon Johnson**

1. Before we dive into the poem, write down words that you don't feel totally comfortable knowing their meaning or the way that they are being used in the text, then write down a quick definition for each:

2. This poem exclusively makes use of rhetorical questions (asking questions to make a point/argument). First, write down his central question that every other question builds upon:

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Each question (or set of questions) is made up of a contrast. Write the first part of the contrast in the left column, and the second part of the contrast in the right column.

_____	or	_____
_____	or	_____
_____	or	_____
_____	or	_____
_____	or	_____
_____	or	_____

4. What do you notice about the overall pattern or organization of his contrasts?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Does he ever deviate from this? If so, where?

\_\_\_\_\_

