ANALYZING POETRY

Name: _____ Date:_____

Grade: _____

Literature

All My Great Excuses

I started on my homework
But my pen ran out of ink
My hamster ate my homework
My computer's on the blink

I accidentally dropped it
In the soup my mom was cooking
My brother flushed it down the toilet
When I wasn't looking.

My mother ran my homework
Through the washer and dryer,
An airplane crashed into our house
My homework caught on fire.

Tornadoes blew my homework away
Volcanoes struck our town
My notes were taken hostage
By an evil killer clown.

Some aliens abducted me
I had a shark attack
A pirate swiped my homework
And refused to give it back.

I worked on these excuses
So darned long my teacher said,
I think you'll find it's easier
To do the work instead.

Kenn Nesbitt

Assignment: Answer the following questions in complete sentences unless otherwise indicated.

1. Who is the poet of the poem "All My Great Excuses?" _____
2. The poem has _____ stanzas and _____ lines.
3. Summarize the poem in (2) line. What is the poem about?

   _____
4. List (3) three excuses from the poem.
   a._____
   b._____
   c._____
5. Identify three (3) pairs of external rhymes.
   a. _____
   b._____
   c._____

6. Quote the line where the teacher speaks. _____

7. Identify the rhyme scheme of stanza 2. _____