Name: TPCASTT for “The Second Coming” by William Butler Yeats

**Paraphrase line by line below.**

Turning and turning in the widening gyre

The falcon cannot hear the falconer;

Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold;

Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world,

The blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere

The ceremony of innocence is drowned;

The best lack all conviction, while the worst

Are full of passionate intensity.

Surely some revelation is at hand; Surely the Second Coming is at hand. The Second Coming! Hardly are those words out When a vast image out of *Spiritus Mundi* Troubles my sight: somewhere in sands of the desert A shape with lion body and the head of a man, A gaze blank and pitiless as the sun, Is moving its slow thighs, while all about it Reel shadows of the indignant desert birds. The darkness drops again; but now I know That twenty centuries of stony sleep Were vexed to nightmare by a rocking cradle, And what rough beast, its hour come round at last, Slouches towards Bethlehem to be born?

**T(title):** Predict the significance of the title *before* reading the poem.

Analyze the title first.

**P(paraphrase):** Re-write the poem  ***line by line*** in your own words next to each line of the poem.

**C**(**connotation)** Connotation is defined as an idea or feeling that a word invokes in addition to its literal or primary meaning; it’s the meaning derived beyond the literal definition.)

Identify poetic devices: alliteration, allusions, assonance, consonance, diction (important diction & why), similes, metaphors, personification, imagery (sight, touch, smell, hear,) hyperbole, onomatopoeia, rhetorical questions, symbolism

List all devices. If the poem doesn’t have one of the poetic devices, list it and then write “none”. *i.e. alliteration: none*

**A (attitude):** Identify and describe the *persona.* Observe the speaker’s attitude, the tone.Note: The author is not necessarily the speaker of the poem**.)**

**S(shift):** Look for change in time, tone, and speaker, as this will affect the meaning of the poem.

**T (title again):** Reconsider the title again. What other meanings might your analysis have now that you’ve analyzed the poem? Try to see how the title fits with the work as a whole.

**T(theme):** Determine what the poet is saying. This does not have to be a “moral” or a “cute saying”. Instead, you should think about how the human experience is presented in the poem. The theme should be a universal truth, not applicable only to the poem. What is the poet trying to say about life? From what you’ve read so far, how does this poem relate to *Things Fall Apart?*