TEACHING TOLERANCE

A PROJECT OF THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER
TOLERANCE.ORG

MIDDLE & UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY

K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Images of "Still I Rise"

Authors often use imagery to create comparisons between literal and figurative elements, add depth and understanding to a literary piece, and evoke a more meaningful experience for the reader. Maya Angelou masterfully uses imagery throughout the poem "Still I Rise." Examining the meaning behind this imagery can help you understand and interpret the poem's theme and message.

1. Read "Still I Rise" in its entirety. It can be found online at www.poetryfoundation.org/poem/175742.
2. Using a highlighter, highlight all of the examples of imagery in the poem. This can include similes, metaphors, personification, hyperbole and onomatopoeia.
3. Divide into small groups, with each group selecting one of the poem's stanzas to analyze.
4. In the chart below, list each example of imagery in your stanza, the type of imagery used, and what you believe the element of imagery represents in the poem's theme.

Imagery Interpretation from Stanza #_____

WORD/PHRASE FROM STANZA	TYPE OF IMAGERY	WHAT THE IMAGERY REPRESENTS

COPYRIGHT ©2012 BY TEACHING TOLERANCE. MAY BE REPRODUCED FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.