**Reading and Interpreting Poetry**

**Dickenson Notes**

1. Her Traits
2. Her Writing

**"SUCCESS IS COUNTED SWEETEST" By Emily Dickenson**

Success is counted sweetest

By those who ne'er succeed.

To comprehend a nectar

Requires sorest need.

Not one of all the purple Host

Who took the Flag today

Can tell the definition

So clear of victory

As he defeated – dying –

On whose forbidden ear

The distant strains of triumph

Burst agonized and clear!

**Task 1: This task has 3 parts (On the back)**

1. Identify subject(s) of the poem (literal to abstract concepts such as war, death, discovery).
2. Then describe the tone the narrator uses in regards to the subject(s). How do you know? Cite specific details/diction that lead you to identify that tone?
3. Craft a **thematic statement** revealing a possible message. What is the poem suggesting/saying? How does it relate to life, human experience, motivation, etc.?

**Task 2: Discern how we understand realism through this poem? (on back)**