



Activity One Worksheet IV

Student Name _____ Date _____

The following lines appear in Robert Frost’s poem, [Birches](#). Read the poem in its entirety, and then answer the questions that follow about the metaphor contained in these lines.

*Soon the sun’s warmth makes them shed crystal shells
Shattering and avalanching on the snow-crust--
Such heaps of broken glass to sweep away
You’d think the inner dome of heaven had fallen.*

What is this metaphor referring to within the context of the poem?

How is this description different from saying that the ice was like glass or crystal?

How is this description different from saying that the ice cracked or was broken?

Describe how and why this metaphor works.

What makes this an effective metaphor and why?
