*I Lost My Talk*by Rita Joe

Stanza 1:

I lost my talk  
The talk you took away.  
When I was a little girl  
At Shubenacadie school.

You snatched it away:  
I speak like you  
I think like you  
I create like you  
The scrambled ballad, about my word.

Stanza 3:

Stanza 2:

Two ways I talk  
Both ways I say,  
Your way is more powerful.

Stanza 4:

So gently I offer my hand and ask,  
Let me find my talk  
So I can teach you about me.

**DIRECTIONS:**

1. Highlight **important text in the poem**, and **any word you don’t understand**.
2. Make any needed **translations** and **annotation** (make notes) on the right side of the poem.
3. On the left side, **identify the stanza’s** (paragraph in a poem) **key point**—what it is trying to say to the reader.