Poetry Analysis

Directions:
1. Read the questions to familiarize yourself with the content.
2. Read the different lines to the poem.
3. Place them in the correct squares next to the questions.
4. Read the poem and ask yourself if it makes sense.
5. With the poem pasted in the boxes answer the questions to the left.

1. The point of view is:

The Speaker is the:

The Reader is supposed to be:

There is a metaphor between life and a:

2. This section is giving imagery for the stair. It describes it as:

This is a metaphor to help explain that her life has been:

Mother to Son

1

2
3. This section is giving imagery of her climbing up the stairs. It describes it specifically as:

This is a metaphor explaining that her life has been:

4. This section is giving imagery of how sometimes the stairs can be dark. It describes it as:

This is a metaphor explaining that her life has:

5. This section is telling the reader not to sit. Sitting down on steps is a metaphor for:

Why does she say not to sit down?

6. In this part the speaker of the poem is telling the reader not to fall. What does she mean by that?

The Main idea of this poem is:
Well, son, I'll tell you: 
Life for me ain't been no crystal stair.

It's had tacks in it, 
And splinters, 
And boards torn up, 
And places with no carpet on the floor -
Bare.

So boy, don't you turn back.  
Don't you set down on the steps
 'Cause you finds it's kinder hard.

Don't you fall now -
For I'se still goin', honey,
I'se still climbin',
And life for me ain't been no crystal stair.

And sometimes goin' in the dark 
Where there ain't been no light.

But all the time
I'se been a-climbin' on, 
And reachin' landin's,
And turnin' corners,