

WRITING- A CREATIVE EXPERIENCE

POETIC VOICES



**Bilingual Department- Professional
Development: Teaching Writing**

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Session 4

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Our Deepest Fear

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.

Marianne Williamson



Purpose:

- **Review Session 3**
- **Focus: What is Poetry?**
- **Why Teach Poetry?**
- **How can we use Poetry?**
- **How to Read Poetry- How to Eat a Poem!**
- **Where Can We Find It?**
- **How Do We Teach It?**
- **Some Types of Poetry**
- **Wrap Up!**



What is Poetry?

Poetry is ART!

It can have Rhyme

It can have Rhythm

It has Style

It has structure and character

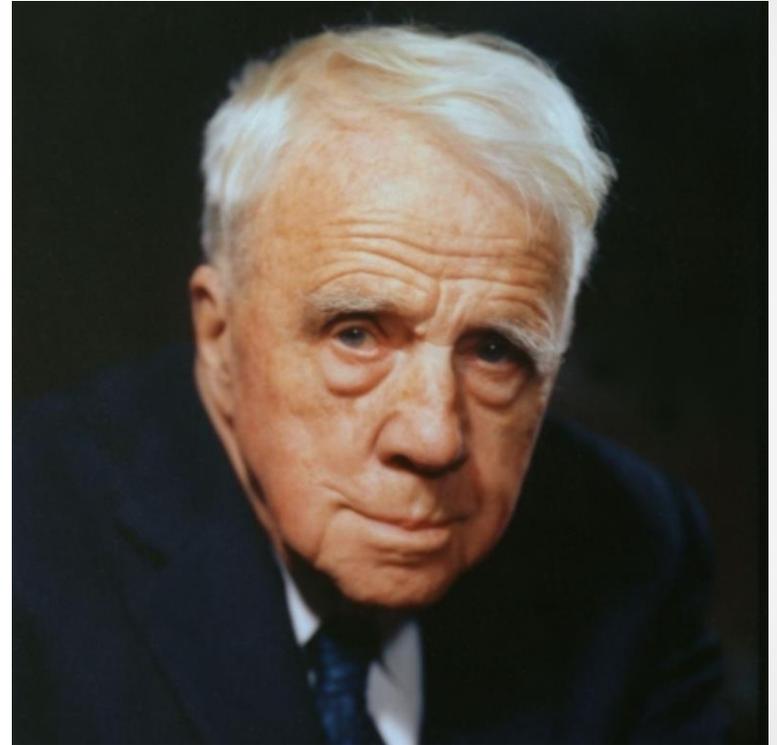
It tells a Story

What is your definition of poetry?

Robert Frost- What is Poetry

**Poetry is when an
emotion has
found its thought
And the thought
has found its
word.**

1884-1963



—

What is Poetry

- A unique form of literature
- It captures experiences and feelings using vivid imagery.
- It comes in a variety of shapes and forms
- Length does not matter- It can be short or long
- It is usually enjoyed better when read aloud
- It sometimes tells a story condensed into just a few well chosen words by the author

Why Teach Poetry?

If I can stop one heart from
breaking, I shall not live in vain;
If I can ease one life the aching, or
cool one pain,
Or help one fainting robin unto his
nest again,
I shall not live in vain.

Emily Dickinson
1830-1886

It is part of the Common Core
Standards



How Can We Use Poetry

- **To teach literature** (works of the creative imagination, including poetry, drama, fiction, nonfiction)
- **Alliteration/Onomatopoeia/Simile/Metaphor/Personification**
- **Mood/Tone**
- **Theme**
- **Hyperbole/Exaggeration**
- **Voice- Diction- Word Choice- Style**
- **To Tell a Story**
- **Stanza/Structure**
- **Imagery**
- **Literal Language/Meaning and Figurative Meaning**
- **Rhythm and Rhyme**
- **To teach Biographies (of Poets)**
- **To teach fluency and expression, drama**
- **To teach an appreciation of the Arts**
- **To promote student engagement**
- **It is part of the Common Core Standards from K-12 Grade**

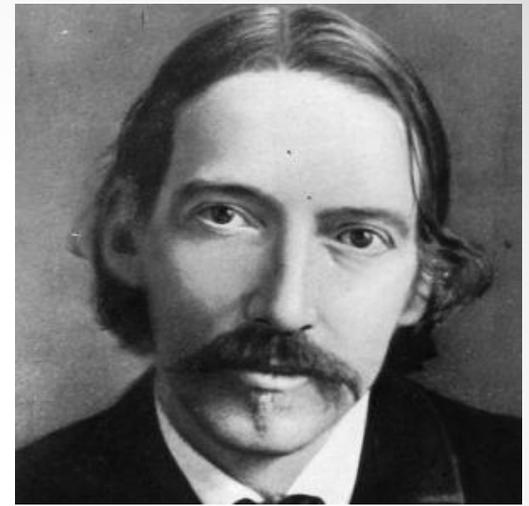
How to Read a Poem

- How to read a Poem for Comprehension-
- **Read according to the PUNCTUATION**
- How to Read a Poem for Rhyme Scheme- **Read line by line**
- **Read with Expression**
- **Think about:**
- **What is the Title of the Poem?**
- **Who is the Author** of the Poem? Share some background information on the author if possible
- **Why** was this poem written?- To entertain
- **How many STANZAS are there?**
- Are there any **new vocabulary** words that we need to know to help us understand the poem?

My Shadow

BY [ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON](#) (1850-1894)

I have a little shadow that goes in and out with me,
And what can be the use of him is more than I can see.
He is very, very like me from the heels up to the head
And I see him jump before me, when I jump into my bed.



The funniest thing about him is the way he likes to grow—
Not at all like proper children, which is always very slow;
For he sometimes shoots up taller like an India-rubber ball,
And he sometimes gets so little that there's none of him at all.



One morning, very early, before the sun was up,
I rose and found the shining dew on every buttercup;
But my lazy little shadow, like an **arrant** sleepy-head, (**arrant means –utter, complete**)
Had stayed at home behind me and was fast asleep in bed.

Some Academic Vocabulary

- **Stanza**-lines that are grouped together
- **Rhyme**- The repetition of sounds at the end of lines
- **Rhyme Scheme**-The pattern of rhyme in a poem (aabb - abab)- uses letters of the alphabet
- **Line**- a unit of meaning for example- a word, a phrase, or sentence
- **Free Verse**- poetry that does not have a regular pattern of rhythm or rhyme- Can sound Conversational (Poem- Bite In/ Mother to Son)
- **Couplet**- A unit of verse consisting of **2 lines** that usually rhyme - For example-
 - Twinkle, twinkle Little Star,
 - How I wonder what you are,
- **Ode** - a literary technique that is lyrical/songlike in nature, but not very lengthy. Poets may use it to praise people, natural scenes, and abstract ideas.

Academic Vocabulary

- **Quatrain**
- Has 4 lines with a rhyming pattern of aabb, abab, aaaa, or abcd
- One of the most common forms of poetry

Fee, fi, fo, fum
Fee, fi, fo, fum
I smell the blood of an
Englishman,
Be he alive, or be he dead
I'll grind his bones to make my
bread

Who Said This?

- **Simile**- compares with the help of the words “like” or “as”.
- **Metaphor**- comparison between two things that are unrelated but share some common characteristics.
- **Personification**- an idea or an animal is given human attributes
- **Alliteration**- a number of words, having the same first consonant sound, occur close together in a series.
- **Assonance**- when two or more words close to one another repeat the same vowel sound but start with different consonant sounds. (**Men sell** the wedding **bell**)
- **Onomatopoeia**- a word, which imitates the natural sounds of a thing.

Where Can We Find Poetry?

Apart from actual poems, we can find Poetry in:

- **Plays**
- **Cards**
- **Wedding Vows**
- **Love Letters**
- **Songs- R&B, Rap, Reggae**

The lyrics and words in songs are usually poetic.
The poem becomes a song when it's put to music.



Think about poetic Lyrics

- Ed Sheeran's- Thinking Out Loud
- Adele's - Skyfall
- John Legend's – All of Me
- R. Kelly's- I Believe I Can Fly

Emancipate yourself from mental slavery,
None but ourselves can free our minds.
Have no fear for atomic energy,
'Cause none of them can stop the time.

Redemption Song by Bob Marley

A Widow Deeply Scarred,
Somebody's Broken Heart
And A Washed-Out Dream
They Follow The Pattern Of
The Wind, Ya' See
Cause They Got No Place To Be
That's Why I'm Starting With Me

Man in the Mirror by Michael Jackson

Hands to the Heavens, no man, no weapon
Formed against, yes glory is destined
Every day women and men become legends
Sins that go against our skin become
blessings
The movement is a rhythm to us
Freedom is like religion to us

Glory by Common/ John Legend



How Do We Teach It?- Build Confidence

- **We need to build confidence and enjoyment- If our students do not enjoy poetry today...they will not enjoy it tomorrow. They need to build an appetite for it.**
- CHOOSE a poem that is simple or easy enough for students to read and to understand to get them to develop an enjoyment for the poem.
- CHOOSE a Poem that teaches the skill that you are focusing on
- Do the vocabulary related to the poem
- It can't be taught in one lesson. **Don't rush it!**
- **Make it exciting- Use choral reading as a best practice to build fluency, confidence and motivation**
- **Teach poems along with songs/music that students know and love**
- **Have students write poetic cards, songs/rap and simple poems of their own.**

Some Types of Poetry

Acrostic Poetry- The first letters of each line form a sentence related to a topic- the letters are also written vertically

IN SEPTEMBER at the beginning of year

- T akes time to listen
- E ach student is important
- A lot of patience
- C ares about learning
- H as all the answers (or will look it up!)
- E ach day a new adventure
- R eally organized (most of the time!)



ACROSTIC POETRY

IN JUNE at the end of the year

Tired

Everyday, now that the year is coming to an end

Although, energy resurges on the weekend

Can't wait for summative evaluations to be over

Homework packets for summer last year

Eager to be used again this year

RAC- I'm ready for the summer!



Free Verse

“How to Eat a Poem”

by Eve Merriam

Don't be polite.

Bite in.

Pick it up with your fingers and lick the juice that
may run down your chin.
It is ready and ripe now, whenever you are.

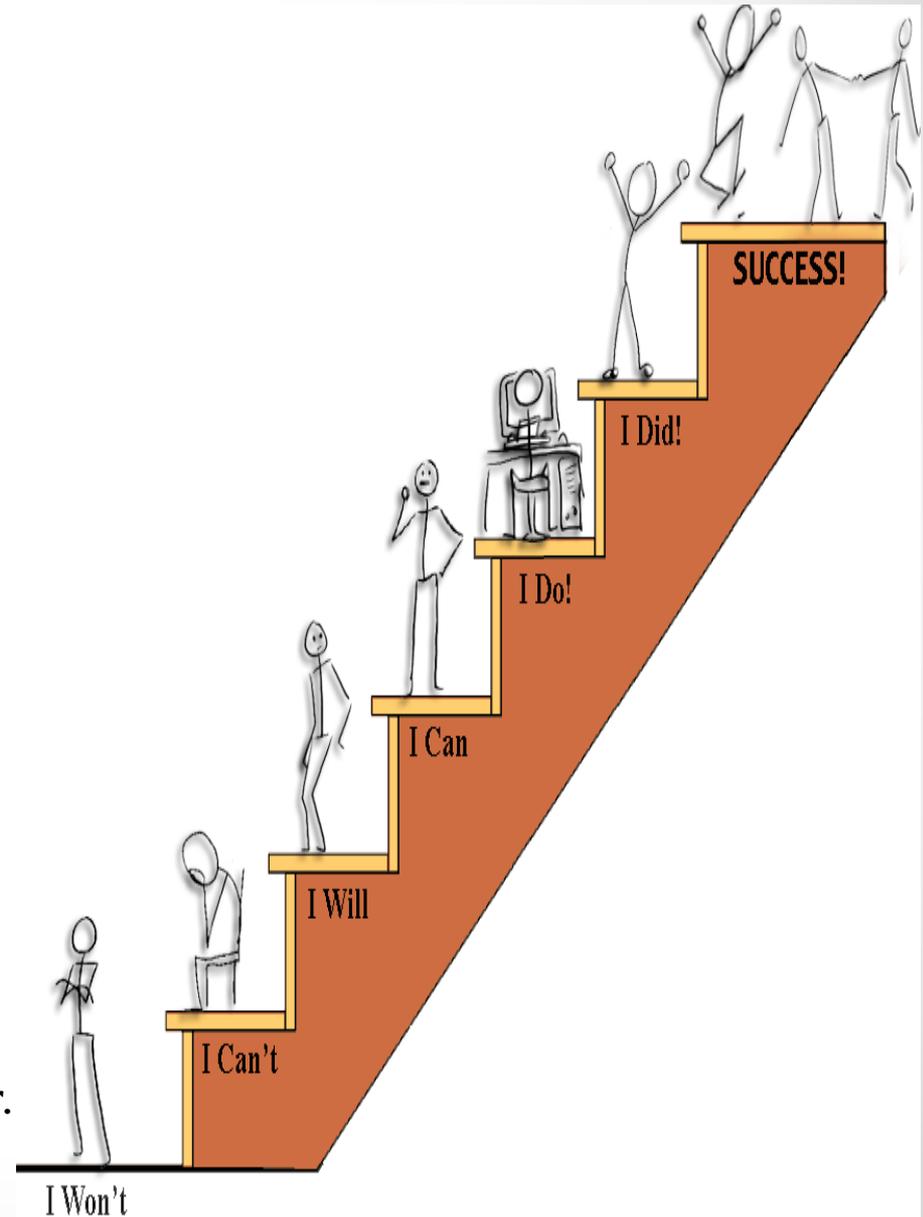
You do not need a knife or fork or spoon
or plate or napkin or tablecloth.

For there is no core
or stem
or rind
or pit
or seed
or skin
to throw away.



Mother to Son by Langston Hughes

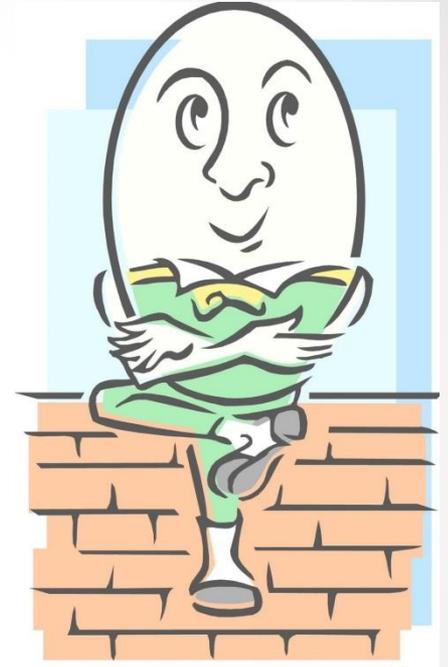
Well, son, I'll tell you:
Life for me ain't been no crystal stair.
It's had tacks in it,
And splinters,
And boards torn up,
And places with no carpet on the floor --
Bare.
But all the time
I've been a-climbin' on,
And reachin' landin's,
And turnin' corners,
And sometimes goin' in the dark
Where there ain't been no light.
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've still goin', honey,
I've still climbin',
And life for me ain't been no crystal stair.



Who's Who- Nursery Rhymes

Name the Character

- Who sat on a Wall
- Who went Up a Hill
- Hickory, dickory, dock, (who ran up the clock?)
- Who is nimble and quick?
- Who stuck in his thumb and pulled out a plum?
- Who has lost her sheep?
- Who sat on a tuffet?
- Who had a little lamb with snow white fleece?
- Which King was a merry old soul?
- Who went to a cupboard to fetch her dog a bone?



Haiku Poetry

- Ancient Japanese Form of Poetry
- Uses nature as its theme and it does not rhyme
- It is a 3 line poem with a total of 7 syllables.
- (5-7-5 pattern)
- line 1 = 5 syllables
- line 2 = 7 syllables
- line 3 = 5 syllables

Cinquains

- Five Line Poem.
- Comes in three Patterns

Cinquain Pattern 1

Line1: One word
Line2: Two words
Line 3: Three words
Line 4: Four words
Line 5: One word

Cinquain Pattern 2

Line1: A noun
Line2: Two adjectives
Line 3: Three -ing words
Line 4: A phrase
Line 5: Another word for the noun

Cinquain Pattern 3

Line1: Two syllables
Line2: Four syllables
Line 3: Six syllables
Line 4: Eight syllables
Line 5: Two syllables

EXAMPLE 1

Dinosaurs
Lived once,
Long ago, but
Only dust and dreams
Remain

EXAMPLE 2

Spaghetti
Messy, spicy
Slurping, sliding, falling
Between my plate and mouth
Delicious

EXAMPLE 3

See Packet

Limericks

- Funny or silly poems with 5 lines
- Meant to be humorous
- Lines 1,2, and 5 rhyme with each other
- Lines 3 and four rhyme with each other
- Rhyme scheme of aabba

Let It Come Alive- Poetry is Art!

- **Woman Work**
- **Sensemaya the Snake**
- **At the Theatre- To the Lady Behind Me**
- **Mother to Son**

Wrap Up- Keep It Simple

- Poetry is Art
- Poetry is Fun
- Poetry is Artistic and Creative
- Poetry once not enjoyed might never be enjoyed again
- Poetry demands APPRECIATION
- Poetry teaches many skills
- Poetry summarizes
- Poetry tells a story
- Poetry builds fluency



Resources

Mother to Son- Langston Hughes poem - GREAT Viola Davis voice--then POET HIMSELF RECITES! Taken from:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NX9tHul7zVo>

Rubric adapted from:

<https://mrsswansonclass.wikispaces.com/file/.../limerick+grading+rubric....>

Cinquains- Examples. Taken from

http://hrsbstaff.ednet.ns.ca/davidc/6c_files/Poem%20pics/cinquaindescrip.htm

