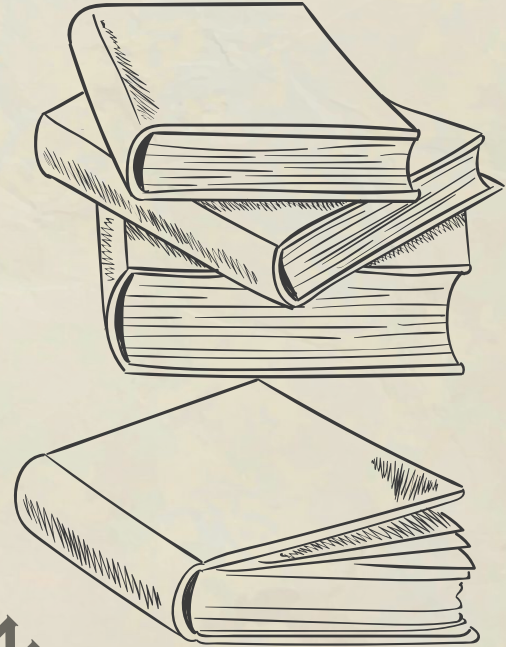


8th Grade

Poetic Analysis and Interpretation

The Craft of Verse



Our Focus



01

Elements of Style

Understanding how words work & why words matter

02

Poetic analysis

Breaking down complex texts & putting the pieces together

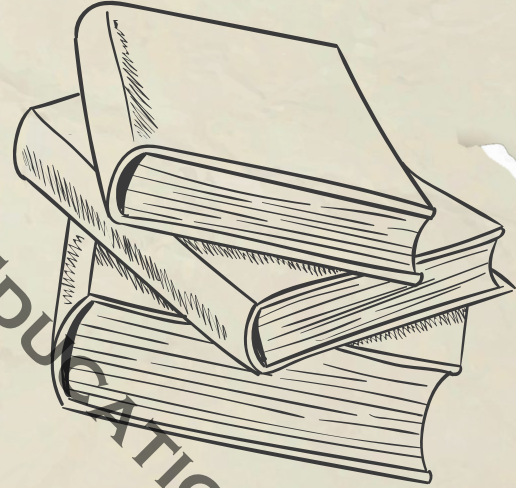
03

Publishing Texts

Learning how to share your writing using different tools & media

Poetry Portfolio

A poetry portfolio is a compilation of your original poems, presented in a cohesive and visually appealing format. Think of it as a showcase of your poetic talents.



Poetic Café

On the final day, you will each present your poetry portfolios.

What is a Poetry Portfolio?

Think of your poetry portfolio as a personal anthology, a collection of your best work. It's a chance to showcase your creativity, skill, and unique voice.

Poetry Portfolio Outline

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What to Include?

Table of Contents:

- A clear and concise list of your 5+ original poems, along with page numbers.

Introduction:

- A brief introduction about yourself as a poet.
- Your inspiration for writing poetry.
- Your poetic journey and growth.

Your Poems:

- At least 5 of your original poems, carefully selected to represent your best work.
- Each poem should be formatted neatly, with clear titles and line breaks.

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What to Include?

Analysis and Reflection:

- For each poem, write a short analysis explaining:
 - The theme or message of the poem.
 - The poetic devices used (e.g., metaphors, similes, alliteration).
 - The overall impact of the poem.
- Reflect on the writing process, challenges faced, and lessons learned.

Visual Elements:

- Consider adding visual elements to enhance your portfolio, such as:
 - Original artwork or illustrations.
 - Photographs that relate to your poems.
 - A creative cover design.

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Be Creative!

- **Choose a Format:** Consider a physical binder, a digital slideshow, or a website.
- **Design Aesthetically:** Use fonts, colors, and layout to create a visually appealing portfolio.
- **Proofread Carefully:** Check for errors in grammar and spelling.
- **Practice Your Presentation:** Rehearse your presentation to build confidence and timing.
- **Engage Your Audience:** Use eye contact, gestures, and vocal variety to captivate your listeners.
- **Be Open to Feedback:** Welcome constructive criticism and use it to improve your work.

Remember: Your poetry portfolio is a reflection of your unique voice and creativity. Take pride in your work and share it with the world!

Have fun and let your words shine!

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A Note on AI Use

While AI can be a useful tool for many tasks, it's important to remember that poetry, like other forms of creative expression, is deeply personal and rooted in human experience.

The beauty of poetry lies in its authenticity and originality. Using AI to generate poetry can diminish the unique voice and perspective of the poet.

Instead of relying on AI, consider these approaches to enhance your poetry portfolio:

1. Write regularly - practice makes progress!
2. Read widely - it fuels imagination!
3. Engage in feedback often - conversation build change!
4. Prioritize your time when writing - don't wait to the last minute!
5. Ask for help if you need it - I will be more than happy to sit with you!

Remember, the most powerful tool for a poet is the human mind, fueled by imagination, emotion, and experience.

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01

Introduction

What Is Poetry?

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Introduction to Poetry:

by Billy Collins

Poem of the Day



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Analyze & Connect

1. What are some funny or silly things the speaker says about poetry?
2. What is the speaker's main message or advice? What does he want us to do when we read a poem?
3. Why does the speaker say we shouldn't analyze a poem too much?
4. What does the speaker mean when he says, "A poem is a doorway into a world of wonder"?
5. Have you ever read a poem that made you feel a strong emotion? What was it?
6. Do you agree with the speaker's advice to just enjoy a poem? Why or why not?
7. Can you think of a time when you felt a strong connection to a poem or a song?

Quick Write

In your language notebooks, begin by asking yourself *What is Poetry?*

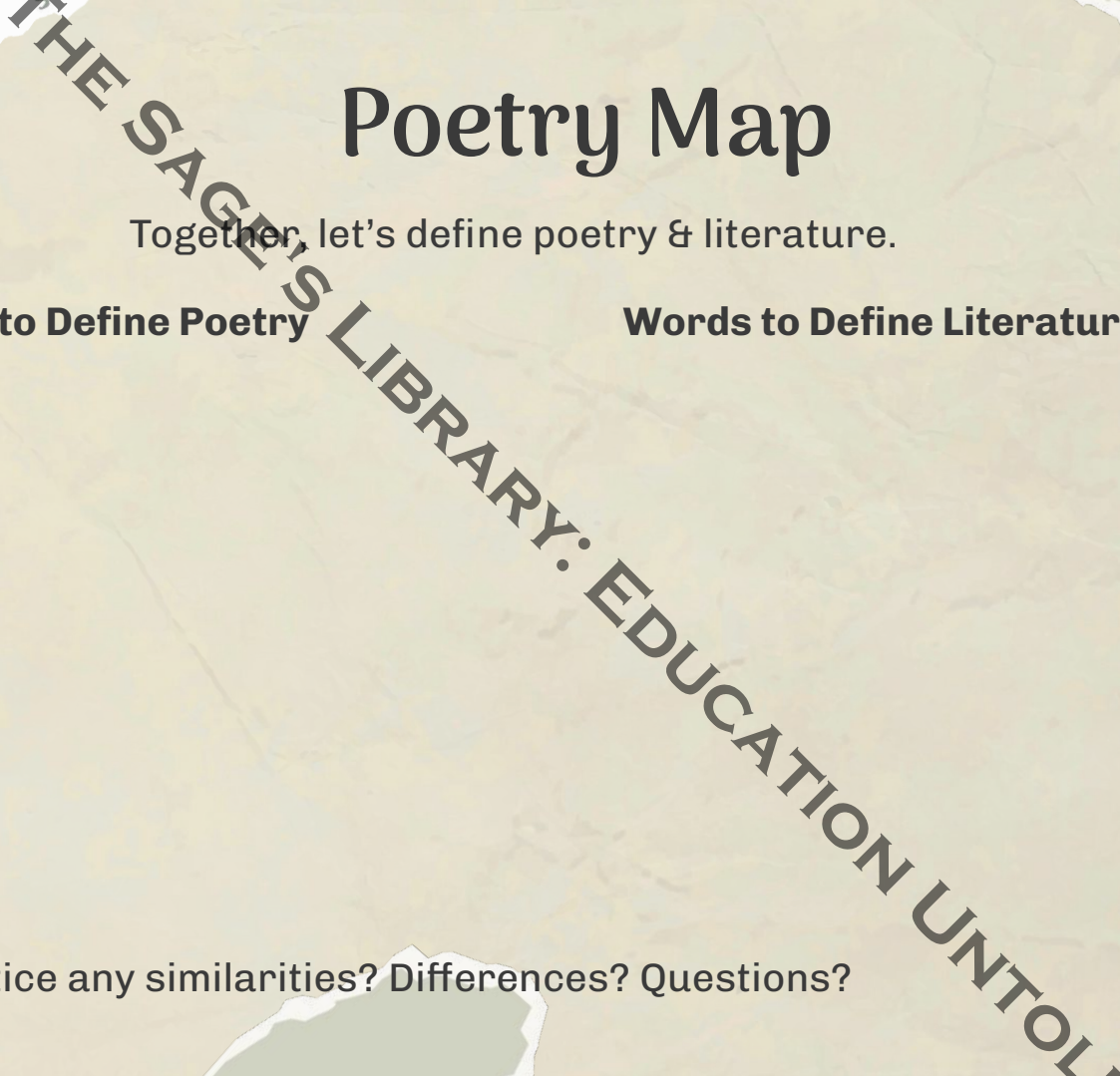
Once you have an idea of it, try to combine your sentences together. Use adjectives, phrases, or connecting words to create a *flow*.

This is your first poem!



Remember: Poetry is NOT perfect.
Just write what you think it is.

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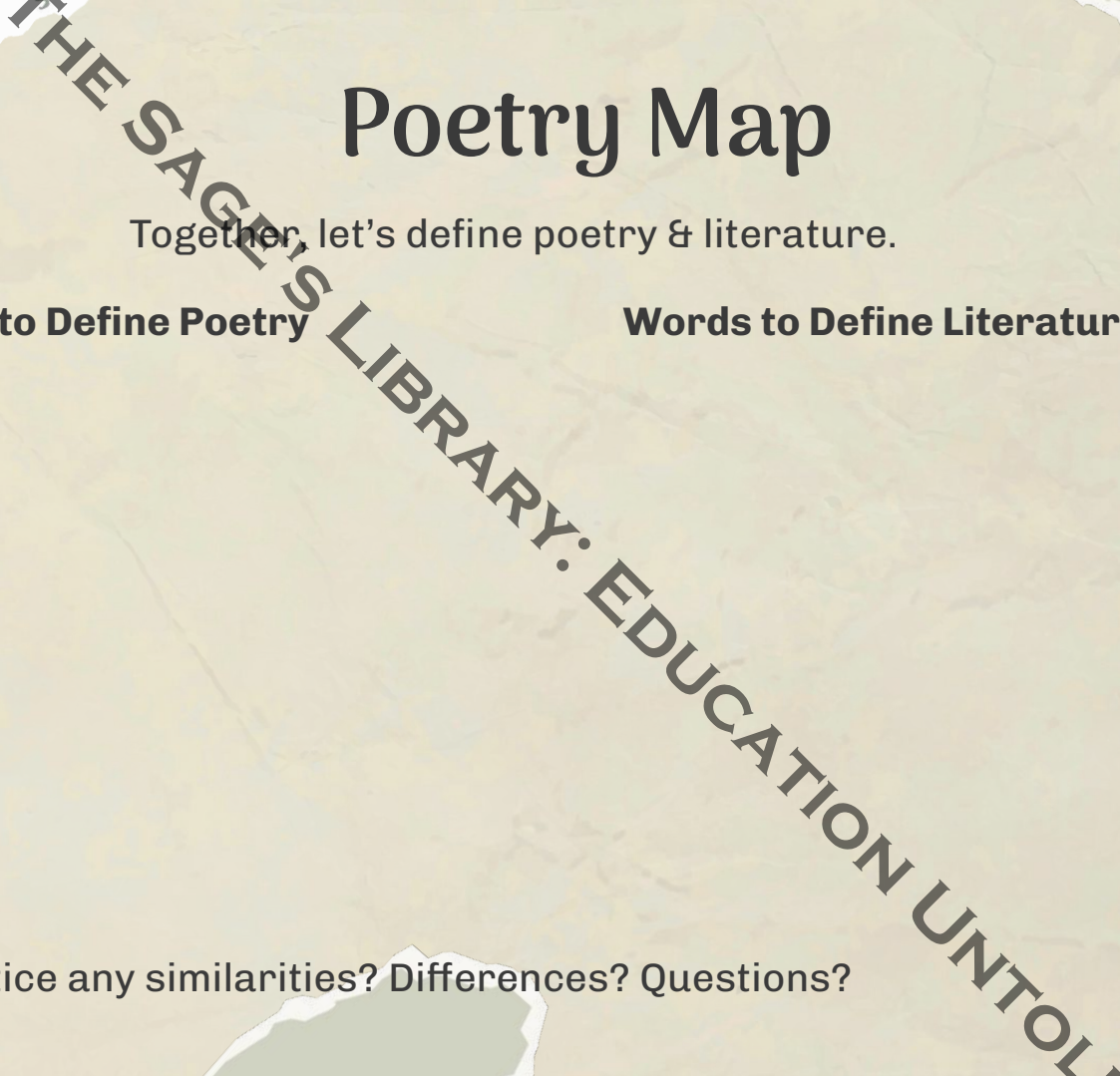
Poetry Map

Together, let's define poetry & literature.

to Define Poetry

Words to Define Literature

ice any similarities? Differences? Questions?



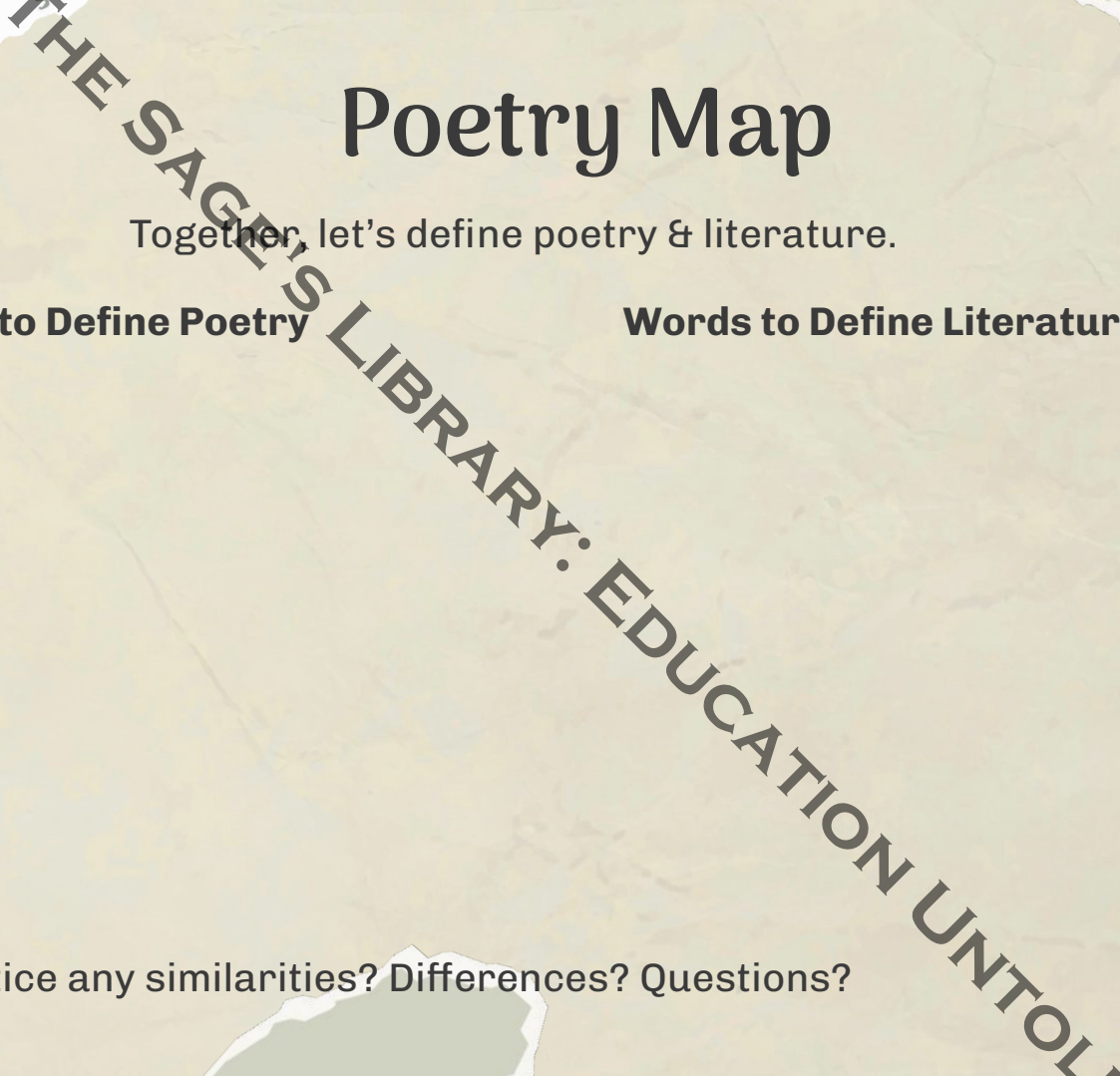
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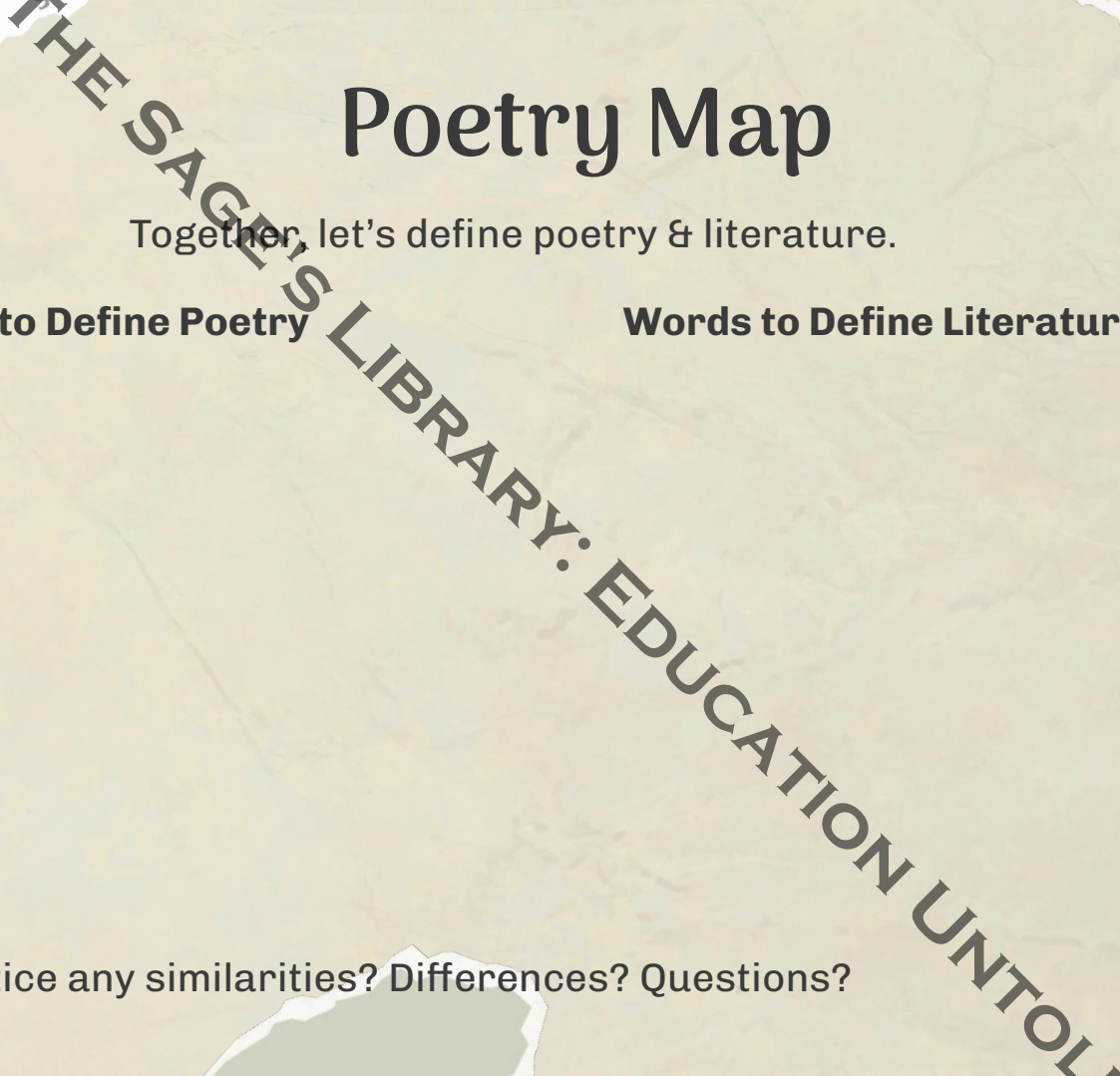
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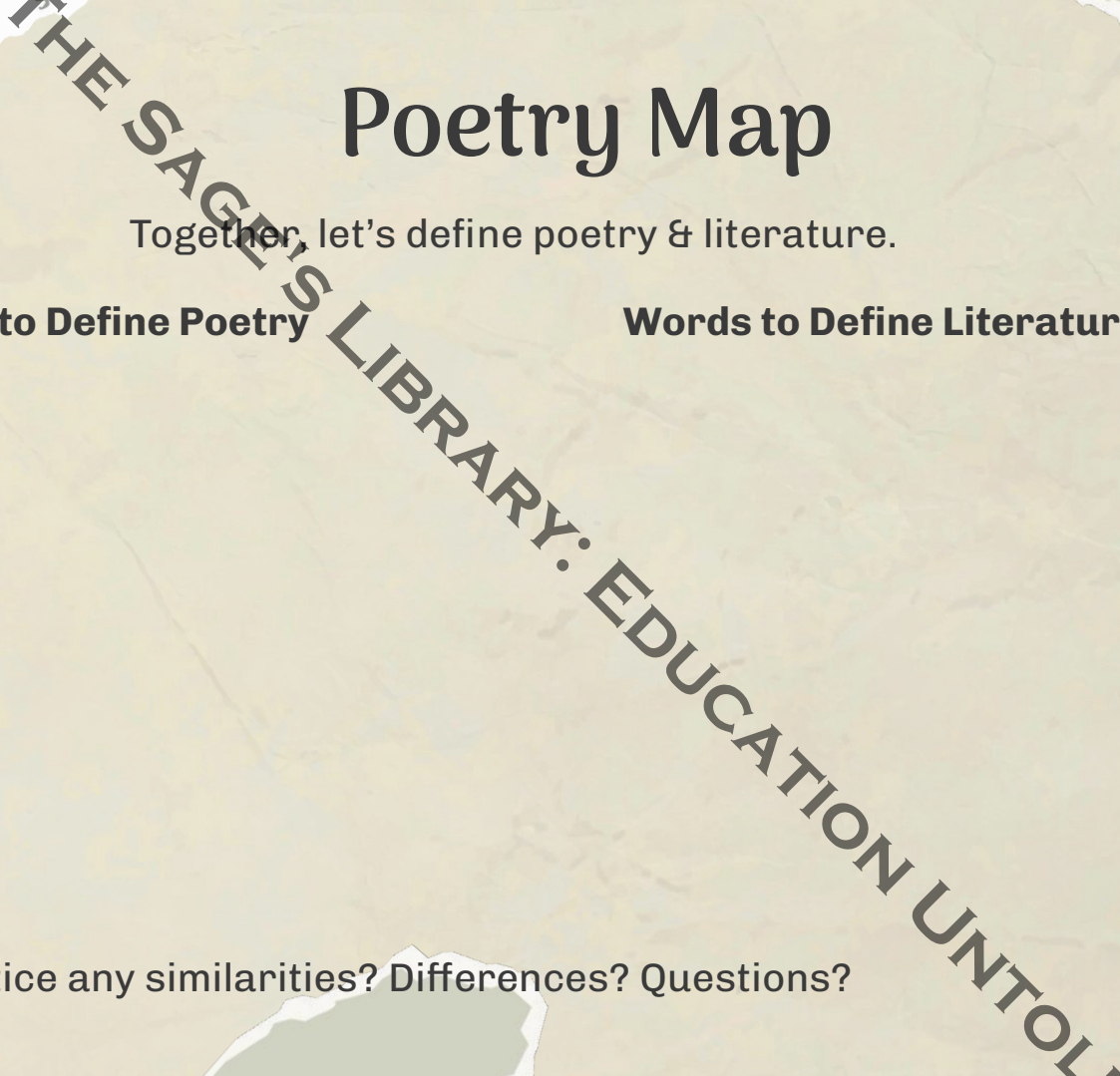
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Poetry Map

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to Define Poetry

Words to Define Literature

ice any similarities? Differences? Questions?

Let's Discuss

How does poetry use language differently than literature?

Does poetry have a stronger impact on the reader than literature?

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Poem of the Day

How did this poem make
you feel?

Did you hate it?

Did it make you stop and
think for a second?

In this short Life that only lasts an hour (1292)

BY EMILY DICKINSON

In this short Life that only lasts an hour
How much - how little - is within our power

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The Power of Suggestion

Poetry can often rely on suggestion and implication, leaving much to the reader's imagination. This can create a more personal and impactful reading experience.

Poetry often reflects the poet's personal experiences and emotions, creating a more intimate and subjective reading experience.

Let's debate this question:

Poetry has a stronger impact than other forms of literature.

If you are for - stand up; if you are against sit down. Use evidence from specific poems and literary works to support your claims.

Brainstorm

In your groups, compile a list of possible themes, forms, and styles an author might use in poetry.

In 10 minutes, let's see what we have.

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Brainstorm

Themes

Forms

Styles

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History of Poetry

Pre-500 AD



Ancient Origins

Oral traditions, epic poems, and lyric poems

600 - 1400



Classical & Medieval

Greek & Roman poetry, middle ages, and courtly love

1350 - 1600



Renaissance

Revival of classical literature, sonnets, odes, metaphysical poems

1700 - 1950



Modern

Romantic period, modernism, and contemporary poems

Poetic Forms

There are over 168 forms of poetry. These can be broken down into 3 main genres:

1. Narrative
2. Dramatic
3. Lyric

Each type of poem relies on a different format to convey meaning.

For example, Narrative poetry tells a story. Dramatic poetry is used in plays with dramatic action. Lyric poetry expresses a person's state of mind or attitude.



✧ Poetic form helps us
remember important stories. ✧



Narrative Poetry

Narrative poetry tells a story with a clear beginning, middle, and end, often involving characters and a plot. It includes:

1. **Epic** – Long, serious poem about heroic deeds (e.g., *The Iliad*).
2. **Ballad** – Simple, song-like poem that tells a story, often of folk origin.
3. **Idyll** – Short pastoral poem that presents a peaceful, idealized view of rural life.
4. **Romance** – Narrative poem focusing on adventure, love, and heroism.
5. **Lay** – Long narrative poem, often medieval, dealing with chivalric or religious themes.
6. **Epyllion** – Short narrative poem, often mythological (e.g., *Hero and Leander*).

Dramatic Poetry

Dramatic poetry is written in the form of a speech or dialogue, often involving a character or persona separate from the poet.

1. **Dramatic Monologue** – Poem where a single speaker, who is not the poet, speaks to an audience.
2. **Soliloquy** – Speech by a character alone on stage, revealing inner thoughts.
3. **Verse Drama** – Written in verse and intended for performance (e.g., Shakespearean plays).
4. **Dialogic Poetry** – Poetic form where two or more characters speak to each other, revealing their perspectives.

Lyric Poetry

Lyric poetry expresses personal thoughts, emotions, or observations. It is often musical and varied in form. Types include:

1. **Sonnet** – 14-line poem with a specific rhyme scheme, often about love or nature.
2. **Ode** – Formal, stately poem addressing and praising a person, idea, or object.
3. **Elegy** – Lament for the dead or a meditative reflection on loss.
4. **Haiku** – Japanese form of 17 syllables in 5-7-5 pattern, often about nature.
5. **Limerick** – Humorous five-line poem with a specific rhythm and rhyme scheme.
6. **Villanelle** – 19-line poem with repeated lines and a strict rhyme pattern.
7. **Sestina** – Complex form with six 6-line stanzas and a final 3-line envoi.
8. **Ghazal** – Lyric poem with a series of couplets, often expressing love, loss, or longing.
9. **Canzone** – Medieval Italian lyric poem often exploring complex emotions.
10. **Triolet** – 8-line poem with a set rhyme and repeated lines.
11. **Pantoum** – Series of quatrains with a complex pattern of repetition.
12. **Rondeau** – Poem with refrains, often expressing light, personal thoughts.
13. **Free Verse** – No rhyme or set rhythm, focusing on natural speech and emotional expression.
14. **Acrostic** – Poem where the first letters of each line spell out a word or message.
15. **Epigram** – Short, witty poem, often satirical or humorous.
16. **Epitaph** – Brief poem in memory of someone deceased, often found on tombstones.
17. **Blank Verse** – Unrhymed iambic pentameter, used for serious themes.
18. **Prose Poem** – Written in prose rather than verse but retains poetic qualities.
19. **Dirge** – Song or lament for the dead, usually expressing sorrow.

Guess the Type of Poem

Sea Shanty Medley

There once was a ship that put to sea
And the name of the ship was the Billy o' Tea
The winds blew hard, her bow dipped down
Blow, my bully boys, blow (huh!)
Soon may the Wellerman come
To bring us sugar and tea and rum
One day, when the tonguin' is done
We'll take our leave and go

It's a Ballad!

The Wellerman is not a sea shanty like TikTok tells you. It's actually a ballad because it retells the story of New Zealand whalers waiting for their supply ship called "The Wellerman."

The lyrics focus on the storytelling rather than coordinating physical work (this is a sea shanty).

A ballad is a form of musical entertainment. A Sea Shanty was created to keep sailors awake and in line with their duties while at sea.

Elements of a Poem

Each poem will have the following 6 elements - with the exception of rhyme.

1. Mood - the feeling the poet is trying to show using words and imagery.
2. Theme - the message of the poem.
3. Rhythm - the beat, sound, and feel of a poem.
4. Meter - the number and style of accented syllables in a line of poetry.
5. Rhyme* - words with the same end sound.
6. Stanza - a group of lines in a poem.
7. Line - a row of words in a poem.

Identify the Parts of a Poem

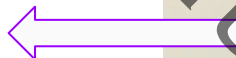
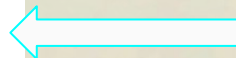
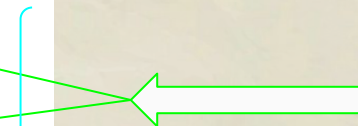
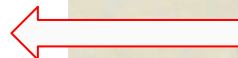
Label each part of the following poem.

On the Morning of Christ's Nativity

BY JOHN MILTON

This is the month, and this the happy morn,
Wherein the Son of Heav'n's eternal King,
Of wedded Maid, and Virgin Mother born,
Our great redemption from above did bring;
For so the holy sages once did sing,
That he our deadly forfeit should release,
And with his Father work us a perpetual peace.

That glorious Form, that Light unsufferable,
And that far-beaming blaze of Majesty,
Wherewith he wont at Heav'n's high council-table,
To sit the midst of Trinal Unity,
He laid aside, and here with us to be,
Forsook the courts of everlasting day,
And chose with us a darksome house of mortal clay.



Exit Ticket

Respond to the two questions below in your notebooks
- **individually.**

Hand them in when you're finished.

1. What is one thing you learned about poetry today?
2. What surprised you about poetry?

Homework

Poetry Analysis Worksheet

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Poetry Notes

Poetry Notes - Lesson 1

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Poetry Portfolio Outline

Poetry Portfolio Outline

Portfolio Example

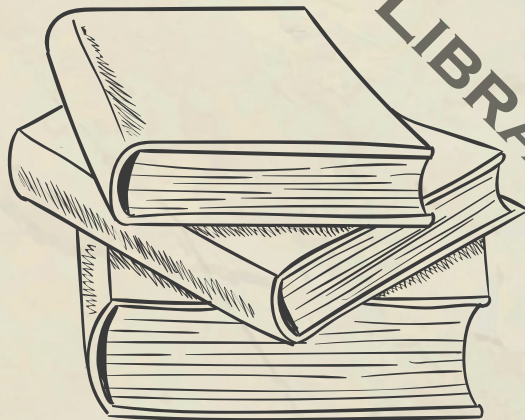
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02

Voice & Word Choice

How & Why Authors
Choose Words



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Poem of the Day

"Hope is the thing with feathers"

By Emily Dickinson

Hope is the thing with feathers

That perches in the soul,
And sings the tune without the words,
And never stops at all,

And sweetest in the Gale is heard;

And sore must be the storm
That could abash the little bird
That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chilliest land,

And on the strangest Sea;
Yet, never, in Extremity,
It asked a crumb of me.



Analyze & Connect

1. What did you think about this poem?
2. What is the main metaphor in the poem? How does Dickinson compare hope to a bird?
3. What does the phrase "that perches in the soul" mean? Where does hope reside?
4. What is the tone of the poem? Is it hopeful, despairing, or something else?

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Poem's Content

- **Main Metaphor:** Hope is compared to a bird.
 - The bird represents resilience and comfort, always singing and never asking for anything in return.
- **"That perches in the soul":**
 - Hope lives within us, offering strength and support.
- **Tone of the Poem:**
 - Optimistic and reassuring, emphasizing the power of hope to endure even the hardest challenges.

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Mood – The Feeling of Words

What is a mood? Think of a mood like the feeling of a room. Is it happy and bright, or dark and scary? Poems can make us feel different things too!

How do poets create mood?

- **Word Choice:** They pick words that make you feel a certain way. Words like "dark," "gloomy," and "scary" can make a poem feel spooky. Words like "happy," "bright," and "joyful" can make a poem feel cheerful.
- **Imagery:** Poets use pictures with words to help you imagine. If a poem describes a sunny day with flowers blooming, it might make you feel happy. If it describes a stormy night with dark clouds, it might make you feel sad or scared.
- **Sound Devices:** Poets use sounds to create a mood. For example, a poem with lots of soft sounds might feel peaceful, while a poem with lots of hard sounds might feel exciting or angry.

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Tone - The Author's Attitude

What is Tone? Think of tone as the author's attitude towards their subject. It's like the feeling behind their words. Is the author happy, sad, angry, or hopeful? The tone can change how we feel when we read a poem.

How do poets create tone?

- **Word Choice:** The words a poet chooses can create different tones. Words like "joyful," "cheerful," and "bright" can create a happy tone. Words like "sad," "lonely," and "dark" can create a sad tone.
- **Figurative Language:** Using figures of speech like metaphors, similes, and personification can help set the tone.
- **Punctuation:** Punctuation marks like exclamation points and question marks can also influence the tone.
- **Sound Devices:** The use of rhyme, rhythm, and alliteration can contribute to the overall tone.

Voice - The Speaker's Identity

What is Voice in Poetry?

Think of the voice in a poem as the person speaking the words. It's like a unique fingerprint that sets a poem apart. The voice can be the poet themselves, a character they've created, or even an object.

How is Voice Created?

- **Point of View:** Is the speaker telling the story from their own perspective (first person), addressing the reader directly (second person), or talking about someone else (third person)?
- **Tone and Mood:** The speaker's attitude and feelings towards the subject matter can shape the voice. Are they angry, sad, happy, or something else?
- **Word Choice and Style:** The words a poet chooses and how they use them can reveal a lot about the speaker. Formal language might suggest a serious or scholarly voice, while informal language might create a more casual or conversational tone.
- **Dialect and Dialect:** The way a speaker talks, including their accent, dialect, and use of slang, can contribute to their unique voice.

Word Choice - The Building Blocks of Poems

Word choice is one of the most important elements of poetry. The words a poet chooses can have a significant impact on the meaning, tone, and mood of a poem.

Why is Word Choice Important?

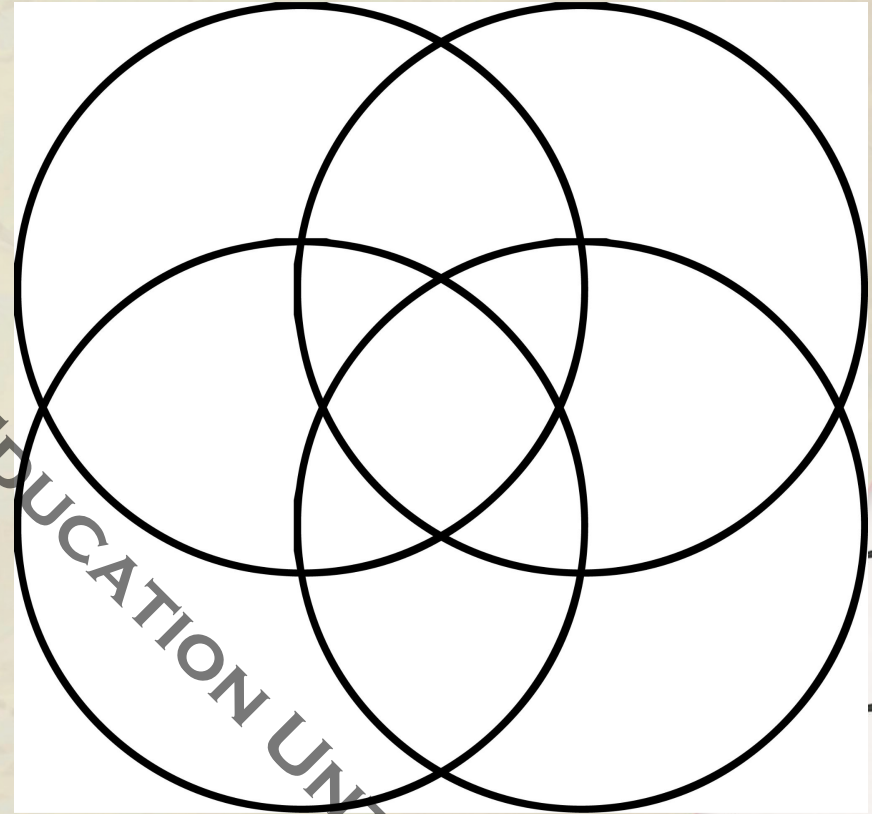
- **Conveys Meaning:** Words can be used to convey specific meanings, emotions, and ideas.
- **Creates Imagery:** Strong word choice can create vivid images in the reader's mind.
- **Establishes Tone:** The words a poet chooses can set the overall tone of the poem, whether it's serious, humorous, or something in between.
- **Evokes Emotion:** Certain words can evoke specific emotions, such as sadness, joy, anger, or peace.

Compare & Contrast

Using the venn diagram, in your groups, analyze what is different and similar between:

1. Mood
2. Tone
3. Voice
4. Word Choice

Take 10 minutes to discuss it. Then we can discuss it together.



Poem Analysis 1

What happens to a dream deferred?

Does it dry up
like a raisin in the sun?
Or fester like a sore—
And then run?
Does it stink like rotten meat?
Or crust and sugar over—
like a syrupy sweet?

Maybe it just sags
like a heavy load.

Or does it explode?

Harlem by Langston Hughes

Using the venn diagram, in your groups analyse the poem for:

1. Mood
2. Tone
3. Voice
4. Word choice

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Poem Analysis 2

CAGED BIRD

By Maya Angelou

A free bird leaps
on the back of the wind
and floats downstream
till the current ends
and dips his wing
in the orange sun rays
and dares to claim the sky.

But a bird that stalks
down his narrow cage
can seldom see through
his bars of rage
his wings are clipped and
his feet are tied
so he opens his throat to sing.

The caged bird sings
with a fearful trill
of things unknown
but longed for still
and his tune is heard
on the distant hill
for the caged bird
sings of freedom.

The free bird thinks of another breeze
and the trade winds soft through the sighing trees
and the fat worms waiting on a dawn bright lawn
and he names the sky his own

But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams
his shadow shouts on a nightmare scream
his wings are clipped and his feet are tied

Using the venn diagram, in
your groups analyse the poem
for:

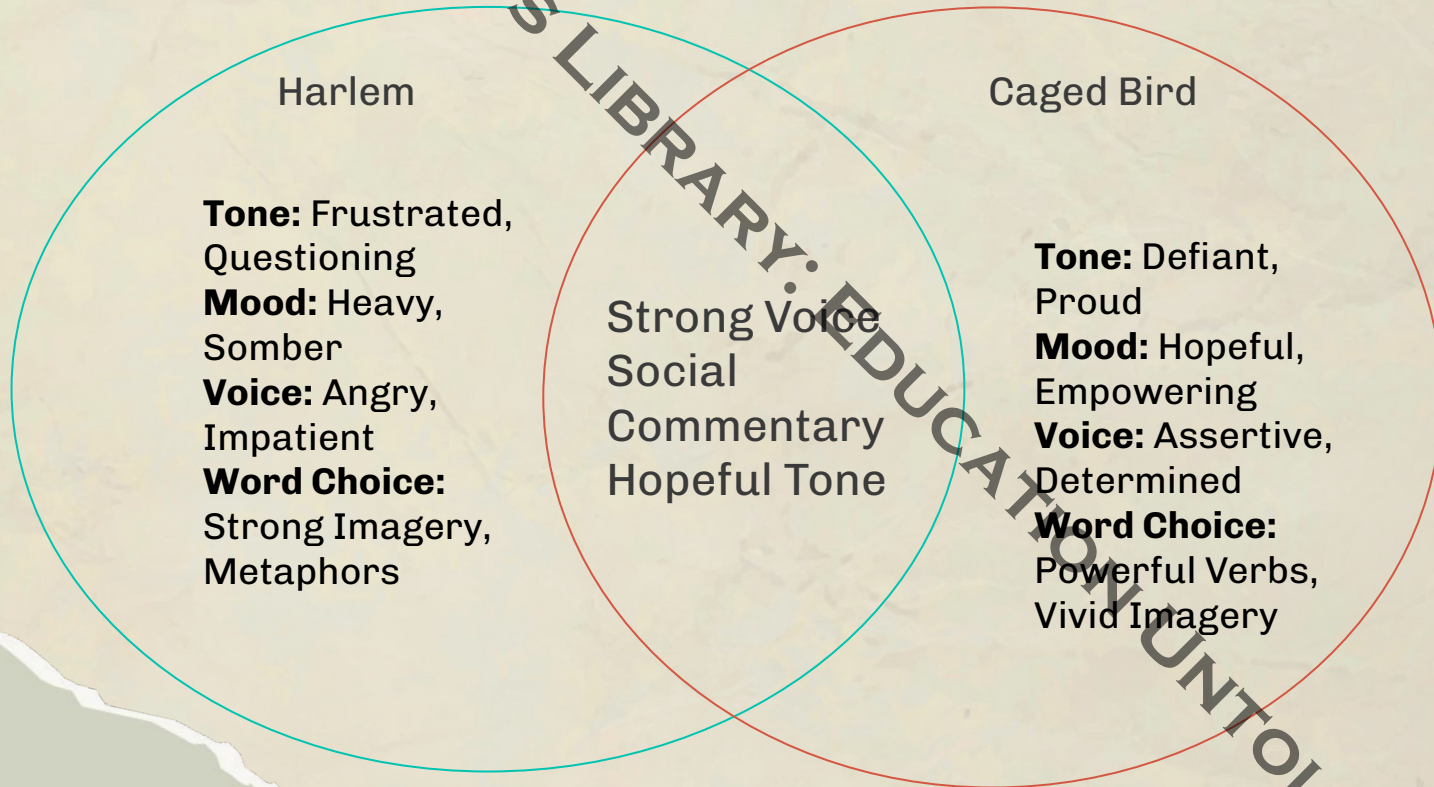
1. Mood
2. Tone
3. Voice
4. Word choice

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Now, Compare & Contrast

Together, let's compare and contrast the two poems.



Quick Write

1. Think of a mood or tone (Angry, Joyful, Hopeful, Scared).
2. Write 10 words that show that mood or tone. (Think of verbs and adjectives).
3. Choose a point of view - I, you, or we.
4. Put the words together into a 5-line poem to evokes that mood or tone.
 - a. Your poem should be concise and impactful. Use your words to paint a picture and evoke a strong emotional response.

Does anybody want to share their poem?

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Ms. Greco's Poem

Mood: Ambitious

Words: cunning, shadowed, serpentine, whisper, sleek, ambitious, power, gleam, pride, thrive

Point of View: We

We thrive in shadowed, serpentine grace,
Whispers of power leave no trace.
Ambitious hearts with a cunning gleam,
Sleek with pride, we build our dream.
Slytherin's path is a daring embrace.



flavien

Ms. Greco's Poem

Mood: Scared

Words: trembling, shadows, creaking, fleeting, gripping, pale, shiver, eerie, gasp, vanish

Point of View: I

I shiver as shadows creep,
The creaking floorboards groan deep.
Fleeting shapes grip my gaze,
An eerie chill begins to blaze.
I gasp—then they vanish, leaving only haze.



Ms. Greco's Poem

Mood: Magical

Words: wand, shimmering, whisper, spellbound, cloak, soaring, enchanted, glow, flicker, unseen

Point of View: I

I flicker a wand, a shimmering glow,
Whispers of magic begin to flow.
Spellbound skies, an enchanted flight,
Cloak unseen in the velvet night.
The world transforms in a spark's bright show.



Ms. Greco's Poem

Mood: Fiery

Words: blaze, crimson, ash, wings, roar, fireborn, conquer, sear, flame, unyielding

Point of View: I

I rise with wings through a crimson blaze,
Fireborn spirit, unyielding gaze.
A roar that sears, ash fills the sky,
Flames of conquest never die.
Targaryen blood—our legacy stays.



Exit Ticket

In your notebooks, respond to the following questions & hand it in when you're done.

1. What is one word choice or voice technique you used in your poem?
2. How did it affect the tone of your poem?
3. How confident are you in understanding mood, tone, voice, and word choice? What questions do you still have?

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Lesson 2 - Notes

Lesson 2 Notes

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Review

Parts of a Poem

Types of Poems

Triolet vs. Lyrical

Rhyme Scheme

Theme vs. Symbol vs. Mood

03

Sentence Structure & Rhythm

How Does This Contribute
to Meaning?



Poem of the Day



Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

BY ROBERT FROST

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

Let's Discuss

1. **The Power of Nature:** How does the natural world, particularly the snowy woods, affect the speaker's mood and thoughts?
2. **The Role of Time:** What role does time play in the poem? How does the speaker's awareness of time influence his decision?
3. **The Symbolism of the Woods:** What might the woods symbolize? Is it a place of peace, mystery, or death?
4. **Sentence Structure:** How does Frost vary sentence structure to create a sense of rhythm and emphasis?
5. **Rhythm:** How does the rhythm change throughout the poem? Are there any moments of acceleration or deceleration?

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Let's Discuss

The Power of Nature: The snowy woods calm the speaker's mind and offer a peaceful escape from the world.

The Role of Time: The speaker is aware of his responsibilities and the passage of time, but he is tempted to stay in the woods.

The Symbolism of the Woods: The woods symbolize a place of tranquility and mystery. It's a place where the speaker can escape the demands of everyday life.

Sentence Structure: Frost uses a mix of short and long sentences to create a sense of rhythm and emphasis. The simple sentence structure reflects the speaker's contemplative mood.

Rhythm: The poem has a steady, rhythmic pattern, which contributes to its calming and meditative tone. The repetition of certain sounds and phrases also creates a sense of rhythm.

Writing Activity

Try breaking up the lines in different ways. You could shorten or lengthen lines, or even create new stanzas.

"And the Raven, never flitting, still is sitting, still is sitting On the pallid bust of Pallas just above my chamber door; And his eyes have all the seeming of a demon's that is dreaming, And the lamp-light o'er him streaming throws his shadow on the floor; And my soul from out that shadow that lies floating on the floor Shall be lifted—nevermore!"

How do these changes affect the rhythm and pace of the stanza? Does it change the mood or tone? Does it highlight certain words or phrases?

never
flawless

Structure in Poetry

Think of a poem as a house. The structure is the framework that holds the house together. In poetry, structure refers to how the poem is organized.

Key Elements of Structure in Poetry:

- **Lines and Stanzas:**
 - Lines are the building blocks of a poem.
 - Stanzas are groups of lines, like paragraphs in prose.
- **Rhyme Scheme:**
 - This is the pattern of rhymes at the end of lines. For example, ABAB CDCD.
- **Meter:**
 - This refers to the rhythm of a poem, often determined by the number of syllables in each line.
- **Form:**
 - This is the overall shape or style of a poem. Some common forms include sonnets, haikus, and free verse.

Line Breaks

A line break is where a line of poetry ends and a new one begins. It's a powerful tool that poets use to control the pace and rhythm of a poem.

Why Line Breaks Matter:

- **Rhythm and Pace:** Line breaks can create a sense of rhythm and pace. Short lines can create a quick, staccato rhythm, while longer lines can slow down the pace.
- **Emphasis:** By placing certain words at the end of a line, poets can emphasize them.
- **Creating Pauses:** Line breaks can create pauses in the reading, giving the reader time to reflect on the meaning of the words.
- **Visual Impact:** Line breaks contribute to the visual appearance of the poem on the page.

Types of Line Breaks:

- **End-Stopped Lines:** These lines end with a punctuation mark, creating a clear pause.
- **Enjambment:** This occurs when a sentence or phrase continues across multiple lines, creating a sense of flow and momentum.

Verses

A verse is a single line of poetry. It's the basic unit of a poem, similar to a sentence in prose. Verses can be arranged into stanzas, which are groups of lines that form a unit of thought.

For example, in this simple poem:

Twinkle, twinkle, little star, How I wonder what you are.

Each line is a verse. Together, they form a two-line stanza.

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Rhythm - Poetic Music

Rhythm in poetry is like the beat of a drum or the melody of a song. It's the pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables in a line of verse.

How is Rhythm Created?

- **Meter:** This is the regular pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables in a line of poetry. Common metrical patterns include iambic pentameter and trochaic tetrameter.
- **Rhyme Scheme:** The pattern of rhymes at the end of lines can contribute to the rhythm of a poem.
- **Alliteration and Assonance:** The repetition of consonant sounds (alliteration) and vowel sounds (assonance) can create a musical effect.

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Why Does It Matter?

Meaning: The structure of a poem can help convey its meaning. For example, a sonnet's strict form can create a sense of order and control, while a free verse poem can feel more chaotic and expressive.

Sound: The structure of a poem affects its sound. Rhyme and meter create a musical quality that can enhance the emotional impact of the poem.

Readability: A well-structured poem is easier to read and understand.

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Structure - The Foundation

Think of structure as the skeleton of something. It's the way things are arranged or organized. For example:

- **A building:** It has walls, a roof, and floors. These parts work together to create a strong and stable structure.
- **A story:** It has a beginning, middle, and end. These parts work together to tell a complete story.
- **A sentence:** It has a subject and a verb. These parts work together to express a complete thought.

So, structure is all about how things are put together to make a whole.

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Why Does It Matter?

Why is Rhythm Important?

- **Emotional Impact:** Rhythm can evoke strong emotions. A slow, steady rhythm might create a sense of calm, while a fast-paced, rhythmic poem might feel exciting or energetic.
- **Memorability:** Rhythmic poems are easier to memorize.
- **Aesthetic Pleasure:** The musical quality of a poem can enhance the reading experience.

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Stanzas

Think of a stanza as a paragraph in a poem. It's a group of lines that form a unit of thought. Stanzas help to organize the poem's ideas and create a visual rhythm on the page.

Different poems use different numbers of lines per stanza. Some common stanza forms include:

- **Couplet:** Two-line stanza
- **Tercet:** Three-line stanza
- **Quatrain:** Four-line stanza
- **Quintet:** Five-line stanza
- **Sestet:** Six-line stanza
- **Septet:** Seven-line stanza
- **Octave:** Eight-line stanza

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Close Reading Activity

1. Read the poem carefully.
2. Analyze the Structure:
 - a. How does the form contribute to the overall meaning and effect?
 - b. How are the stanzas divided? What is the purpose of each stanza?
 - c. How does the length of the lines and the rhythm affect the pace and tone of the poem?
3. Identify the theme
4. Analyze the tone & voice.

They shut me up in Prose – (445)

BY EMILY DICKINSON

They shut me up in Prose –
As when a little Girl
They put me in the Closet –
Because they liked me “still” –

Still! Could themselves have peeped –
And seen my Brain – go round –
They might as wise have lodged a Bird
For Treason – in the Pound –

Himself has but to will
And easy as a Star
Look down upon Captivity –
And laugh – No more have I –

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Findings

Analyzing the Structure

- **Form:** This poem is a single stanza, which gives it a concise and impactful form.
- **Line Length and Rhythm:** The lines are relatively short and the rhythm is irregular, which contributes to the choppy, fragmented feel of the poem. This reflects the speaker's sense of confinement and frustration.

Identifying the Theme

The central theme of the poem is the constraint of creative expression. The speaker feels confined by societal expectations and traditional forms of expression, particularly prose. The poem explores the tension between individuality and conformity.

Analyzing Tone and Voice

- **Tone:** The tone is defiant and somewhat bitter. The speaker resents the limitations imposed on them.
- **Voice:** The voice is that of an individual who feels misunderstood and stifled.

Exit Ticket

In your notebooks, respond to the following questions.

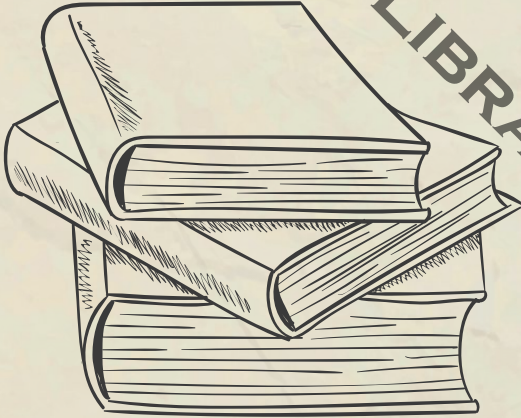
1. How did changing sentence structure or rhythm affect the feeling of the poems we read?
2. Give an example of a sentence you wrote and how it changes the poem's rhythm.
3. What is one thing you're confused on?

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04

Figurative Language Review & Irony

Appearance vs. Reality



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Brainstorm

"Two roads diverged in a yellow wood..."

What do you imagine this phrase means?

Could it have more than one interpretation?



Poem of the Day

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kY5gCIJdbH8>

What figurative language is used in this poem?

Lyrics

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Examples

Personification: "The Soul's escaping, through the hole that is gaping."

Onomatopoeia: "The clock's run out, time's up, over, blaow!"

Metaphor: "Snap back to reality."

Metaphor: "Trying to feed and water my seed."

Allusion: "And it's no movie, there's no Mekhi Phifer."

Imagery: "His palms are sweaty, knees weak, arms are heavy."

Hyperbole: "He's choking out."

Simile: "To the point, I'm like a snail."

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Figurative Language

Type	Definition	Example
Simile	A comparison using "like" or "as"	"Her smile was as bright as the sun."
Metaphor	A direct comparison between two unlike things	"Time is a thief that steals our moments."
Personification	Giving human qualities to non-human things	"The wind whispered through the trees."
Hyperbole	An extreme exaggeration for effect	"I've told you a million times!"
Imagery	Descriptive language that appeals to the senses	"The aroma of fresh-baked bread wafted through the cozy kitchen."

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Figurative Language

Type	Definition	Example
Alliteration	Repetition of the initial consonant sounds in nearby words	"The wild wind whipped through the woods."
Onomatopoeia	Words that imitate sounds	"The bees buzzed, and the brook gurgled."
Symbolism	Using an object or action to represent something more significant	"A red rose often symbolizes love or passion."
Irony	A contrast between expectation and reality (situational, verbal, or dramatic)	Verbal irony: Saying, "What a beautiful day!" during a thunderstorm.

How To Spot It

How to Spot Figurative Language in Texts

1. **Look for comparisons:** Are objects or ideas being compared to something else?
 - Example: "The snow was a white blanket" (metaphor).
2. **Identify exaggerations:** Does the sentence sound over-the-top or impossible?
 - Example: "The suitcase weighed a ton" (hyperbole).
3. **Watch for sensory words:** Are there vivid descriptions that appeal to sight, sound, touch, taste, or smell?
 - Example: "The crimson sunset painted the sky" (imagery).
4. **Notice unexpected meanings:** Are objects or phrases carrying a meaning deeper than their literal sense?
 - Example: A storm representing emotional turmoil (symbolism).

Why Does It Matter?

Why Does Figurative Language Matter?

- Enhances creativity and expression in writing.
- Helps readers visualize and connect emotionally to the text.
- Adds depth and layers of meaning to stories and poetry.

Tip: Keep an eye out for figurative language whenever you read. It's like discovering hidden treasures in the text!

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The Road Not Taken by Robert Frost

The Road Not Taken

Instructions:

1. Read the poem silently.
2. Individually, identify figurative language:
 - a. Metaphor
 - b. Imagery
 - c. Symbolism
 - d. Personification
 - e. Repetition
 - f. Tone
3. Identify any themes that are associated with the figurative language used.

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Irony

Introduction to Irony

Jingle Bells

Christmas Irony?

Written in 1857, it was meant to be a Thanksgiving song of entertainment. It was re-published as a Christmas song.

The main line was inspired by the noise of jingle bells on the horses' harnesses, which were used to try to help avoid collisions in the snow in the mid-19th century.

The lyrics allude to a 1850s version of a date rather than Christmas.

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Introduction to Irony

What Is Irony in Poems & Literature?

Irony is when what you expect to happen and what actually happens are completely different. It can be funny, sad, or surprising and makes stories more meaningful.

How Irony Adds Magic:

- **Adds Depth:** Think about *Frozen*. Everyone expects Prince Hans to be a hero, but he turns out to be the villain. This twist makes us think more deeply about true love and trust.
- **Shows Conflict:** In *The Little Mermaid*, Ariel gives up her voice to find love, but losing her voice creates big problems. The irony shows how chasing dreams can have unexpected challenges.
- **Creates Emotion:** In *Toy Story 3*, the toys think they're being saved from the trash, but they're headed for an incinerator. This shocking moment pulls us in emotionally.
- **Questions Society:** In *Zootopia*, the city seems like a perfect place where anyone can achieve their dreams, but irony reveals hidden prejudices. This makes us reflect on real-world issues like bias and equality.

Types of Irony - Disney Style!

Situational Irony

- **What It Means:** When what happens is the opposite of what you expect.
- **Disney Example:** In *The Incredibles*, the superheroes hide their powers to blend in, but it's their powers that are needed to save the world.
- **In Poetry:** Like in *Ozymandias*, where a king brags about his eternal greatness, but all that's left of his legacy is a broken statue in an empty desert.

Dramatic Irony

- **What It Means:** When the audience knows something the characters don't.
- **Disney Example:** In *The Lion King*, we know Scar caused Mufasa's death, but Simba believes it's his fault.
- **In Poetry:** It's like when a narrator is clueless about their own doom, but the reader can see it coming, adding tension and emotion.

Verbal Irony

- **What It Means:** When someone says one thing but means the opposite.
- **Disney Example:** In *Aladdin*, Genie sarcastically says, "Yeah, right, I'm sure that's what you wished for" when Aladdin tries to cheat his wishes.
- **In Poetry:** Like in William Blake's *The Chimney Sweeper*, where the speaker calls a harsh, unfair reality "God's will" to show how society turns a blind eye to suffering.

Disney's Love of Irony

Snow White's Apple – *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves*

The apple that puts Snow White into a deep sleep is dramatic irony, because the audience knows that the Wicked Stepmother cursed the apple, but Snow White does not.

Mufasa's Death – *The Lion King*

Throughout the entire movie, Simba skulks around the Savannah and thinks that he is the direct cause of Mufasa's death, when in reality Scar, who is now taking care of him, is the one who killed Mufasa. (Dramatic Irony).

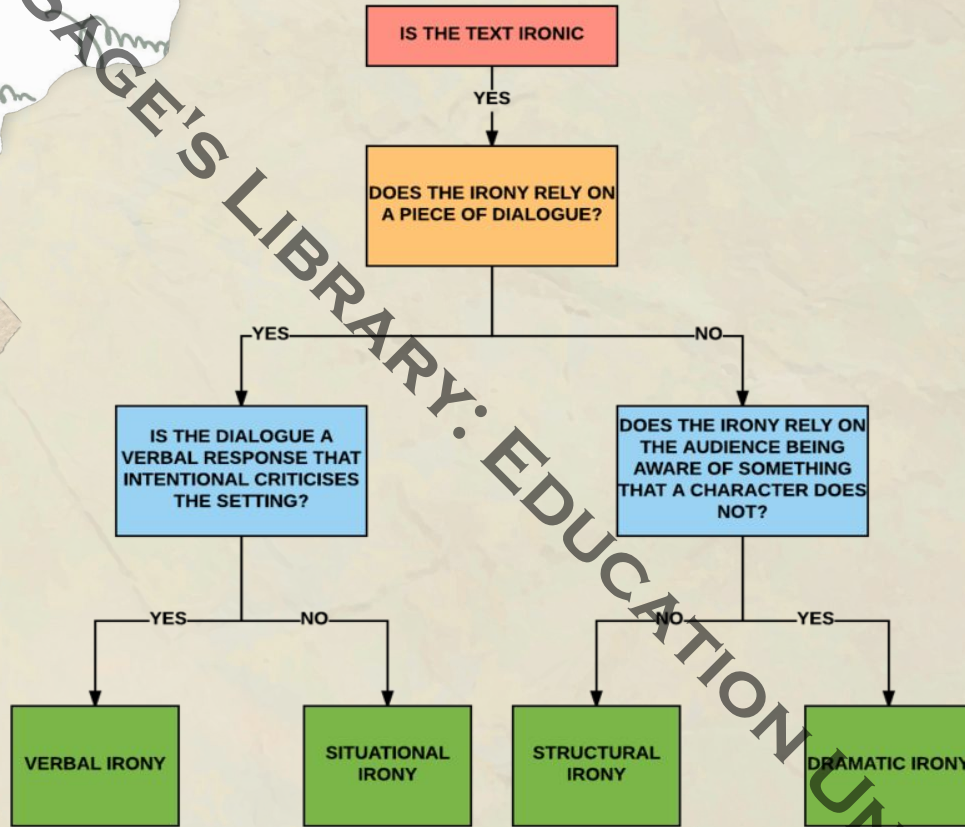
What other Disney examples can you think of that show irony?

Finding Nemo

- Verbal irony: Mostly Marlin with Dory. I use the clip right after the shark intervention, when they are swimming in the dark. Dory asks if Marlin is her conscience and he uses a bit of verbal irony in his smart reply back. (YouTube video link)
- Situational irony: Lots of examples, but when Mr. Ray and Marlin are arguing about who can better watch Nemo so he doesn't get in trouble. It is during this argument that Nemo is able to wander off and gets into trouble. (YouTube video link)
- Dramatic irony: The dentist office scene when Nemo fakes his death. Not only do we know he's not dead, but the audience also knows what is really happening in the office versus the people in the waiting room who are thinking it's the world's worst cavity drilling. (YouTube video link)

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HOW TO ANALYSE IRONY



Langston Hughes - Merry Christmas

Although it may be arguably the merriest time of the year, Hughes uses the season to bring up issues of his time. "Merry Christmas" by Langston Hughes is a cynical poem that attempts to illuminate the injustices of the world by using the phrase "Merry Christmas."

Keep in mind this was published in 1930.

What is the irony in this poem?

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Situational Irony

Hughes uses irony to reveal global issues of starvation, murder, rape, and poverty by stating what Christmas is supposed to stand for, peace, righteousness, and giving and contrasting a Christmas ideal with a global sin.

For example, “peace on Earth” is contrasted with the image of guns and the distribution of weapons.

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Verbal Irony

When he says, “Merry Christmas” in the poem, it doesn’t mean what you think. He says it with a tone of sarcasm as he continues his critique of the social injustices occurring in the 1930s and previously.

The 1930s are the beginning of the Great Depression:

- High unemployment,
- Poverty,
- Suicide rates skyrocketed,
- Communism on the rise in China and Russia,
- Gandhi takes a stand against British rule.

He uses his poem and the theme of Christmas to critique society.

Writing Task

Write a poem of lies of at least 8 lines long. You can base it off anything you'd like, but they must be lies.

For example,

I loved Christmas as a kid.

I loved how the house always smelled of freshly baked cookies in the morning,
how there was laughter floating through the air,
and how warm it always felt.

I loved how everyone always got along so well.

There were never any fights or yelling,
the presents were always stocked beneath the tree,
and the cookies were left out for Santa.

I loved how eager I was to open my presents.

I loved how Christmas was as a kid.

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Ozymandias

BY PERCY BYSSHE SHELLEY

I met a traveller from an antique land,
Who said—"Two vast and trunkless legs of stone
Stand in the desert. . . . Near them, on the sand,
Half sunk a shattered visage lies, whose frown,
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed;
And on the pedestal, these words appear:
My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings;
Look on my Works, ye Mighty, and despair!
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal Wreck, boundless and bare
The lone and level sands stretch far away."

Source: Shelley's Poetry and Prose (1977)

Let's Discuss It

What kind of irony is in this poem?



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Ozymandias

Situational Irony

- How does the contrast between Ozymandias's inscription ("Look on my Works, ye Mighty, and despair!") and the ruined statue create situational irony?
- Why is it ironic that the "works" Ozymandias speaks of are no longer visible? What does this say about his power?

Verbal Irony

- How might the traveler's description of the statue as "vast and trunkless" carry a subtle tone of verbal irony?
- Do you think Shelley's portrayal of Ozymandias's boast is mocking or sympathetic? Why?

Irony and the Theme of Legacy

- In what way does the irony of the ruined statue enhance the theme of the impermanence of power and fame?
- How does the desolate setting ("boundless and bare / The lone and level sands stretch far away") deepen the irony of Ozymandias's once-great empire?

Ozymandias

Situational Irony

1. **How does the contrast between Ozymandias's inscription ("Look on my Works, ye Mighty, and despair!") and the ruined statue create situational irony?**
 - Ozymandias brags about his powerful empire and how others should "despair" at his greatness, but the statue is broken and the empire is gone. The reality doesn't match his boast, making it ironic.
2. **Why is it ironic that the "works" Ozymandias speaks of are no longer visible? What does this say about his power?**
 - He wanted to be remembered forever, but his "works" are gone, showing that even the greatest powers can fade and be forgotten over time. His power turned out to be temporary, not lasting as he hoped.

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Ozymandias

Verbal Irony

3. **How might the traveler's description of the statue as "vast and trunkless" carry a subtle tone of verbal irony?**
 - The word "vast" suggests something grand, but the word "trunkless" shows the statue is incomplete and falling apart. It's a way of showing that something that seemed big and important is now broken.
4. **Do you think Shelley's portrayal of Ozymandias's boast is mocking or sympathetic? Why?**
 - It seems mocking. The poem shows how Ozymandias's claim to be all-powerful is now meaningless because his empire is gone. Shelley uses irony to criticize Ozymandias's arrogance.

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Ozymandias

Irony and the Theme of Legacy

5. **In what way does the irony of the ruined statue enhance the theme of the impermanence of power and fame?**
 - The ruined statue shows that Ozymandias's power and fame didn't last, even though he tried to make it seem like it would. It highlights how all things, even great empires, eventually fade away.
6. **How does the desolate setting ("boundless and bare / The lone and level sands stretch far away") deepen the irony of Ozymandias's once-great empire?**
 - The empty desert shows that nothing remains of Ozymandias's empire. The vast, empty sands contrast with his belief that he would be remembered forever, making the irony even stronger.

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Exit Ticket

What is an example of irony you encountered today?

How does irony affect the meaning or message of a poem?

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05

Satire & Allusion

A Way to Comment on
Societal Issues

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The Grinch Esq.



Satire vs. Allusion

Satire is a literary device that uses humor, irony, or ridicule to criticize or mock individuals, organizations, or societies in order to provoke change.

A satire poem is a poem that uses irony, humor, or exaggeration in order to criticize an aspect of contemporary society. Usually, writers use satire in relation to current politics, but often any current event can be a target for satire.

An allusion is a reference to a well-known person, place, event, literary work, or work of art. Allusions are often indirect, and they rely on the reader's knowledge to create meaning.

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Satire - Disney Style

The Lorax

- Satire: The opening scene where everyone is happy to have only technology and no actual nature. One kid swims and turns green, but is still smiling; a man drives a giant car; a tree needs dozens of batteries to operate. And because of all this, everyone needs to buy clean air for their houses.
- The social commentary here being that we need to nix the technology and get back to nature.

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Four Elements of Satire

Exaggeration

To enlarge, increase, or represent something beyond normal bounds so that it becomes ridiculous and its faults can be seen.

Incongruity

To present things that are out of place or are absurd in relation to its surroundings.

Reversal

To present the opposite of the normal order (e.g., the order of events, hierarchical order).

Parody

To imitate the techniques and/or style of some person, place, or thing.

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Shrek!

Exaggeration

Princess Fiona fights and successfully defeats Robin Hood and all of his Merry Men without any help and without any weapons.

Incongruity

Princess Fiona uses her ponytail to deliver a knockout punch to one of the Merry Men. While frozen in a mid-air martial arts kick, Princess Fiona pauses to fix her disheveled hair before knocking out two of the Merry Men.

Reversal

The roles of the hero and the damsel in distress have been reversed. In this clip, it is Princess Fiona, the rescuee, who fights and defeats the foe.

Parody

The fight scene is an exaggerated imitation of the martial arts style and special effects used in movies such as *The Matrix* and *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*.

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Let's Talk Allusion

What are some examples of allusions you've seen in pop culture (e.g., movies, music)?

How do these references help us understand the message or tone?

ALLUSIONS

The problem with love
these days is that society
has taught the human
race to stare at people
with their eyes rather
than their souls.

-Christopher Poindexter

Allusion - Disney Style

In *Hercules*, you can see Herc, Phil, and Pegasus during the training montage strike the same pose that Mr. Miyagi does on the beach in *The Karate Kid*.



Disney, Columbia Pictures



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Allusion - Harry Potter

In *Harry Potter & the Philosopher's Stone*, they allude to a real alchemic ideology and object: the philosopher's stone. In alchemy, the stone is supposed to grant immortality, just like the movie suggested.



Activity

Guess which excerpt from the two poems is satire or allusion.

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Which is Which?

I have been assured by a very knowing American of my acquaintance in London, that a young healthy child well nursed, is, at a year old, a most delicious nourishing and wholesome food, whether stewed, roasted, baked, or boiled; and I make no doubt that it will equally serve in a fricasee, or a ragoust.

I do therefore humbly offer it to publick consideration, that of the hundred and twenty thousand children, already computed, twenty thousand may be reserved for breed, whereof only one fourth part to be males; which is more than we allow to sheep, black cattle, or swine, and my reason is, that these children are seldom the fruits of marriage, a circumstance not much regarded by our savages, therefore, one male will be sufficient to serve four females.

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?

Thou art more lovely and more temperate:

Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,

And summer's lease hath all too short a date;

Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,

And often is his gold complexion dimm'd;

And every fair from fair sometime declines,

By chance or nature's changing course untrimm'd;

But thy eternal summer shall not fade,

Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st;

Nor shall death brag thou wander'st in his shade,

When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st:

So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,

So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.

Which was Which?

A Modest Proposal

Satire: One of the most famous satirical works in English literature, Jonathan Swift's *A Modest Proposal* suggests that the poor Irish sell their children as food to the wealthy. Swift uses this absurd idea to criticize British policies towards the Irish and the exploitation of the poor. Though written as a serious proposal, the extreme nature of his suggestion exposes the horrors of the real social injustices, making the poem a powerful satire of political and economic systems.

Sonnet 18

Allusion: There is an implied allusion to the idea of immortality, which was often explored in poetry of the Renaissance. Shakespeare's use of "*eternal lines*" alludes to the power of poetry to immortalize beauty, making the subject live on as long as the poem is read.

Writing Task

Step 1: Choose your allusion

Step 2: Brainstorm a theme for your poem

Step 3: Choose the structure of your poem

Step 4: Write the Poem

Step 5: Explain your choices

Examples of allusions you can use:

- **Character:** “Achilles,” “Romeo and Juliet,” or “King Arthur.”
- **Event:** “The French Revolution” or “The Moon Landing.”
- **Myth:** “Pandora’s Box” or “The Trojan Horse.”

Ms. Greco's Poem



Homework:

How to Be Perfect by Ron Padgett

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/57243/how-to-be-perfect>

How to Be Perfect List:

1. Ence bird.
2. Cain's bettogs
3. We lening time
3. Snit's nome
4. Don't my sime
5. Writing seatied
6. Tresing selts
9. Seau winitly
10. Seorn cinle

Satire and Humor:

- How does Padgett use humor to satirize the concept of perfection?
- Which parts of the poem do you find the most humorous? Why?
- How does the poem critique society's obsession with perfection?

The Concept of Perfection:

- Do you think anyone can truly be "perfect" according to the poem's guidelines? Why or why not?
- How does the poem challenge the way we think about personal growth and success?

Exit Ticket

What's one example of satire or allusion you could use in your own poem?

How does this device change the meaning of the poem?

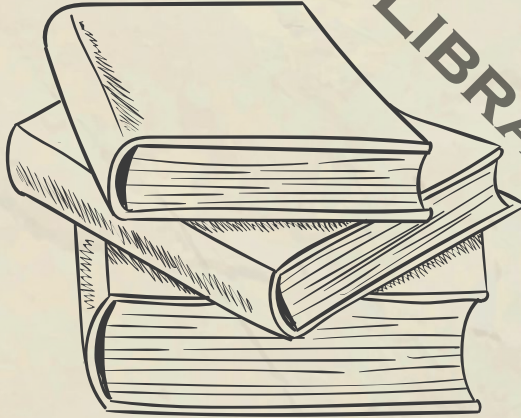
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06

Understanding Poetic Themes

Universal Ideas & The
Human Experience



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Writing Task

Write a poem exploring a universal theme, such as resilience, love, or nature.

I encourage you to use your own experiences or observations as inspiration.



Let's Talk About Themes

The theme of a poem is the central message or the big idea that the poet is trying to communicate.

Discuss the difference between a theme and the subject (e.g., love vs. the theme of love). Is there a difference? Why or why not?

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Themes

Theme in poetry refers to the central idea, message, or underlying meaning that a poet explores throughout the poem. It is the deeper meaning behind the words and imagery, often reflecting on universal experiences, emotions, or concepts such as love, nature, life, death, identity, or conflict.

Examples of Common Themes in Poetry:

- Love and Relationships
- Nature and the Environment
- Life and Death
- Isolation and Solitude
- Time and Memory
- Courage and Struggle
- Identity and Self-Discovery

Why Are They Important?

Why Are Themes Important in Poetry?

1. **To Share a Message:**

The theme helps the poet communicate an important point or feeling. It's what the poet wants the reader to understand or think about.

2. **To Tie the Poem Together:**

The theme gives the poem a clear purpose. Everything in the poem, like the images or words used, works together to support the theme.

3. **To Make You Think:**

Themes often make readers think about their own experiences or ideas. They help you reflect on the world around you.

4. **To Connect to Everyone:**

Poems with themes like love, nature, or time connect with lots of different people, no matter where they are from, because these are things everyone can relate to.

5. **To Create Emotions:**

A theme can make you feel things, like happiness, sadness, or excitement. It helps the poem touch your emotions.

Theme Analysis

There are several things to look for when analysing poetic themes:

Poem Title and Author: Write the title of the poem and the name of the poet.

Theme(s): Identify what message or central idea the poem conveys. Think about what the poet is trying to say about life, love, nature, or any other topic.

Evidence: Look for quotes or lines in the poem that show or suggest the theme.

Tone and Mood: Analyze the tone and mood of the poem—how does the poet feel, and what feeling does the poem create in the reader?

Imagery and Figurative Language: Identify any metaphors, similes, or descriptive language that helps reinforce the theme.

Connections to Life: Consider how the theme connects to real-world issues or personal experiences.

Final Reflection: Reflect on the importance of the theme and how it affects your understanding of the poem.

Theme Analysis Graphic Organizer

Element	Details
Poem Title	<i>(Write the title of the poem)</i>
Author	<i>(Who wrote the poem?)</i>
Theme(s)	<i>(What is the main theme or message of the poem? What does the poet want to convey?)</i>
Evidence from the Poem	<i>(List specific lines or phrases that support the theme(s))</i>
Tone	<i>(What is the tone of the poem? Is it serious, humorous, sad, hopeful, etc.?)</i>
Imagery	<i>(What vivid images or sensory details are used in the poem? How do these relate to the theme?)</i>
Figurative Language	<i>(Identify any metaphors, similes, personification, etc. used in the poem and explain how they support the theme.)</i>
Mood	<i>(What is the overall feeling the poem creates in the reader?)</i>
Connections to Life	<i>(How can the theme be connected to your own life, society, or the world?)</i>
Final Reflection	<i>(How does the poem's theme impact you personally? Why do you think the poet chose this theme?)</i>

Example

Let's analyse the poem together.

1. What are the images in this poem?
2. What is the tone of this poem?
3. What are the themes in this poem?

I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud

BY WILLIAM WORDSWORTH

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

Mini-Assignment

In pairs, you will explore how themes affect a complex poem.

Using the graphic organizer, read the poem and begin to analyse it based on the requirements:

- Themes,
- Evidence,
- Tone,
- Mood,
- Imagery,
- Figurative language,
- Connections to life.

The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock

BY T. S. ELIOT

*• S'io credesse che mia risposta fosse
A persona che mai tornasse al mondo,
Questa fiamma staria senza piu scosse.
Ma perciocche giammai di questo fondo
Non torno vivo alcun, s'i'odo il vero,
Senza tema d'infamia ti rispondo.*

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Exit Ticket

1. What is a theme you want to explore in your poetry?
2. How can understanding a theme help shape your writing?

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07

Connections

Analyzing Texts to Compare
& Contrast

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Writing Task

Write a short response poem that synthesizes elements from two previously analyzed poems. This could involve blending themes, voice, or styles.

Potential Themes Across Poems:

- **Freedom and Oppression:** *Caged Bird*, *Ozymandias*, *They Shut Me Up in Prose*
- **Choices and Consequences:** *The Road Not Taken*, *Harlem*, *Sonnet 18*
- **Hope and Despair:** *Hope is the Thing with Feathers*, *Caged Bird*, *Harlem*
- **Time and Immortality:** *Sonnet 18*, *Ozymandias*, *Stopping by the Woods on a Snowy Evening*
- **Existential Themes and Identity:** *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*, *How to Be Perfect*, *The Road Not Taken*

Poems Thus Far

Here's a quick review of all the poems we've read thus far:

1. "Hope is the thing with feathers" – Emily Dickinson

Theme: Hope and resilience, the comfort hope provides, and its persistence even in adversity.

2. "Caged Bird" – Maya Angelou

Theme: Freedom vs. oppression, the emotional and psychological impact of captivity, resilience and hope for liberation.

3. "Harlem" – Langston Hughes

Theme: The impact of deferred dreams, the consequences of unfulfilled aspirations, frustration, and disillusionment.

4. "Stopping by the Woods on a Snowy Evening" – Robert Frost

Theme: Reflection, tranquility, responsibility, the tension between desire and duty, nature's beauty.

5. "They Shut Me Up in Prose" – Emily Dickinson

Theme: Repression of self-expression, the constraints of societal expectations, the inner struggle for personal freedom.

6. "The Road Not Taken" – Robert Frost

Theme: Choices and consequences, the unpredictability of life's decisions, individuality, and reflection on the past.

Poems Thus Far

Here's a quick review of all the poems we've read thus far:

7. "Ozymandias" – Percy Bysshe Shelley

Theme: The impermanence of power, the passage of time, the irony of human achievements, the futility of pride.

8. "Sonnet 18" – William Shakespeare

Theme: The immortalizing power of poetry, the passage of time, love, and beauty.

9. "A Modest Proposal" – Jonathan Swift

Theme: Satire, social criticism, the inhumanity of societal systems, the need for change.

10. "How to Be Perfect" – Ron Padgett

Theme: The absurdity of striving for perfection, the humor in societal expectations, and the existential questioning of life's absurdities.

11. "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud" – William Wordsworth

Theme: The beauty of nature, the power of imagination, solitude, and reflection, the healing qualities of the natural world.

12. "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" – T.S. Eliot

Theme: Alienation, self-doubt, indecision, existential crises, the complexity of modern life, and the inability to connect deeply with others.

Compare-Contrast

A **compare and contrast** is a method of analyzing two or more things to highlight their **similarities** and **differences**. It helps us understand how two subjects are alike, how they are different, and what these differences and similarities reveal about them.

Here's a breakdown:

1. **Compare:** Looking at how two things are similar. This can include shared characteristics, features, or qualities. For example, comparing two poems by examining how they both explore themes of loss or love.
2. **Contrast:** Looking at how two things are different. This focuses on distinctions in aspects like tone, structure, or the message the author is trying to convey. For example, contrasting two poems on how they treat the theme of love—one might be hopeful, while the other is melancholic.

Compare-Contrast

Purpose: The goal of comparing and contrasting is to:

- Gain a deeper understanding of both subjects.
- See how different elements work together or highlight unique qualities.
- Make connections or distinctions that enhance your overall interpretation of the subjects involved.

In literature, **compare and contrast** can involve analyzing things like:

- **Themes:** How do the poems tackle similar ideas in different ways?
- **Tone:** What emotions or moods do the poems create, and how are they different?
- **Style and Structure:** Do the poems use similar techniques or have a different structure that influences their meaning?

What Do We Look For?

Theme(s): Identify the central theme of each poem. Are they dealing with similar issues (e.g., love, death, freedom), or do they present very different themes (e.g., hope vs. despair)?

Tone: Examine the tone of each poem. How does the poet use language to set a certain mood? Do both poems share the same tone, or is there a contrast between them?

Style: What is the style or format of the poem? Consider if the poem follows a traditional form or if it's more modern/free verse. Does the style affect how the theme is expressed?

Imagery: Pay attention to the images evoked in each poem. What sensory details are used (sight, sound, touch, etc.)? Do these images help convey the poem's meaning?

Symbolism: Identify any symbols used in the poems (e.g., objects, settings, characters). How do these symbols deepen your understanding of the themes?

Structure: Does the structure of the poem (line length, stanzas, rhyme, etc.) contribute to its meaning? How does the structure compare across the two poems?

Literary Devices: Look for literary devices such as metaphors, similes, or personification. How do they help convey the poem's message?

Characterization: Who is the speaker in the poem, and how do they express their thoughts or emotions? Compare the perspectives of the speakers in the two poems.

Message/Conclusion: What do you think the poet is trying to convey? Does each poem share a similar message, or do they present different viewpoints on a topic?

Impact on the Reader: How does each poem make you feel? What effect does it have on you emotionally or intellectually?

Analysis Chart

Compare and Contrast Analysis Chart

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Let's Compare Together

Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night

BY [DYLAN THOMAS](#)

Because I could not stop for Death – (479)

BY [EMILY DICKINSON](#)

Shared Themes:

• Unique Themes:

Devices:

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Let's Compare Together

Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night

BY DYLAN THOMAS

Because I could not stop for Death – (479)

BY EMILY DICKINSON

Shared Themes: Death, inevitability, defiance.

Unique Themes: Dickinson's portrayal of death as a calm journey vs. Thomas's portrayal of death as a battle.

Devices: Imagery, tone, personification, rhyme scheme.

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Your Turn

Option 1: **“A Poison Tree” by William Blake** vs. **“The Caged Bird” by Maya Angelou**

Option 2: **“How Do I Love Thee?” by Elizabeth Barrett Browning** vs. **“Sonnet 18” by William Shakespeare**

Option 3: **“The Road Not Taken” by Robert Frost** vs. **“Invictus” by William Ernest Henley**

Students will work in pairs to complete their own compare-contrast analysis chart comparing their assigned pair of poems. They will focus on themes, literary devices (such as tone, imagery, rhyme scheme, etc.), and the messages of the poems.

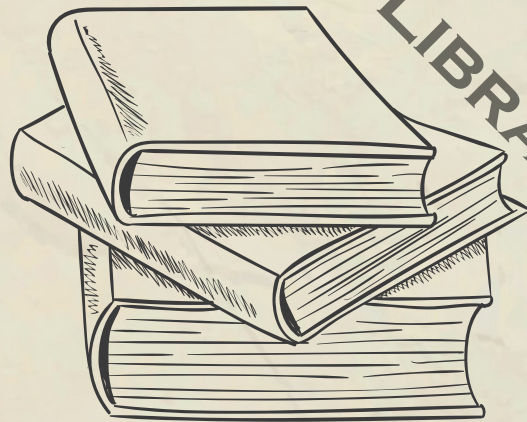
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Exit Ticket

1. What are two themes you saw in different poems and how do they connect?
2. Why is it important to recognize themes across different poems?

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08

Drafting Poems

How to Use Literary
Devices

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Writing Task

Imagine you're a time traveler visiting a future version of your hometown. Write a short poem describing what you see, feel, and experience. Use at least one allusion to connect your observations to something from the past, a book, movie, or historical event.

Guiding Questions:

- What details about the future do you notice—buildings, people, nature, technology?
- How do you feel about the changes in your hometown?
- Can you use an allusion to compare something in the future to a familiar story, movie, or event?

Example Poem:

The moon is a silver lantern,
Guiding me through the dark,
Like Alice in the wonderland,
I wander, seeking a spark.

My thoughts are rivers, flowing
wild,
A sea of dreams, untamed and free,
And like the phoenix in the sky,
I rise from what used to be.

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Writing Workshop - Step 1

What is Allusion?

- Allusion is when a writer refers to a well-known person, event, piece of literature, or work of art to add depth or meaning to their writing. It's a way of drawing on shared knowledge.

Why use Allusion?

- Allusions help convey complex ideas without needing a detailed explanation. They also connect the reader to a broader cultural or historical context.

Examples:

- "His bravery reminded me of Hercules, standing tall against impossible odds."
 - Reference to **Hercules**, a Greek hero, to emphasize strength and courage.
- "The city buzzed with energy like a scene from *Blade Runner*."
 - Reference to the movie **Blade Runner** to convey futuristic chaos and intensity.

Writing Workshop - Step 2

Task:

Write a poem that includes at least one allusion. Choose a theme or emotion you want to explore and use an allusion to make your poem richer and more meaningful. Your allusion can be to any well-known figure, event, book, movie, or artwork.

Guidelines:

- Think about the message or feeling you want to convey—can an allusion make it stronger?
- Keep the allusion subtle—don't over-explain it. Let the reference be something your reader can recognize or intuitively connect to.
- You can write a short poem or a longer one, but be sure to include the allusion in a way that enhances the meaning of the poem.

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Writing Workshop - Step 3

Task:

Once you've finished your poem, pair up with a classmate. Read each other's poems and provide feedback based on the following prompts:

1. **Allusion Clarity:**
 - Do you recognize the allusion in the poem? Is it clear, or does it need more context?
2. **Effectiveness of Allusion:**
 - How does the allusion help enhance the meaning of the poem? Does it make the theme or message more powerful?
3. **Naturalness of Allusion:**
 - Does the allusion feel natural, or does it seem forced? Does it fit the tone and subject of the poem?
4. **Suggestions for Improvement:**
 - Can the allusion be more effective? How could it be clarified or expanded to strengthen the poem?

Writing Workshop - Step 4

Task:

After receiving feedback, take some time to revise your poem. Focus on making your allusion clearer or more impactful. Consider adjusting the language or expanding the allusion if necessary.

- Think about how your poem now feels with the allusion—does it add more depth? Is it more engaging?

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Exit Ticket

Task:

Write a brief reflection on your poem and the allusion you used. Answer these questions:

1. Why did you choose that particular allusion?
2. How does it contribute to the meaning of your poem?
3. Did the feedback you received help clarify or improve the use of the allusion?
How?

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09

Poetic Styles & Voice

Exploring how structure &
words change meaning



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Writing Task

Prompt:

Write two versions of a poem on the same topic, each with a different tone. For example, one poem could be playful and light-hearted, while the other is serious and reflective. Focus on how your word choices and structure can affect the mood and tone of your poem.

Example Topics:

- A rainy day
- A family celebration
- A quiet moment alone
- The first day of school
- A memory from childhood

Tone Examples to Experiment With:

- Playful vs. Serious
- Optimistic vs. Pessimistic
- Formal vs. Informal
- Light-hearted vs. Dark

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Graphic Organizer for Tone & Voice

Graphic Organizer for Tone and Voice Analysis

Use the **Graphic Organizer** to analyze how your word choice, structure, and imagery created different tones in each poem. This will help guide your reflective writing:

Poem #	Tone	Word Choices	Structure	Impact on Meaning
Poem 1				
Poem 2				

Writing Workshop

Task 1: Writing the Two Contrasting Poems

- Write **two** short poems on the same topic, each using a different tone.
 - **Poem 1:** Focus on a playful or light-hearted tone.
 - **Poem 2:** Focus on a serious or reflective tone.
- Think about how your **word choices**, **sentence structure**, and **imagery** can shift the tone of the poem.

Guiding Questions for Reflection:

- What specific word choices did you make in each poem?
- How did you structure the lines in each poem to support the tone?
- How did the change in tone affect the meaning or message of your poem?
- Which poem did you feel more connected to, and why?

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Peer Review

Task:

- Share your poems in **small groups** or with a partner.
- Use a **Peer Review Checklist** to guide feedback. Consider how word choice, structure, and tone were used to create different effects.

Peer Review Checklist:

1. **Tone Identification:** Can you identify the tone of each poem?
2. **Word Choice:** How do the word choices in the poem support the tone?
3. **Structure:** How does the structure (e.g., line breaks, punctuation) affect the tone?
4. **Impact:** How does the change in tone affect the overall meaning or mood of the poem?
5. **Suggestions:** Offer one suggestion for improving the tone or making it clearer.

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Post-Peer Review

After your peer feedback session, take a few minutes to reflect on the activity in writing:

1. **Write a brief reflection on how the tone of your poem changed the overall meaning:**

- Did the tone shift make the poem feel lighter or heavier?
- How did your word choices help convey a particular mood or feeling?
- Which version of the poem did you feel was more successful and why?

2. **Analyze how tone affects the reader's experience:**

- Do you think your poems would evoke different emotions in a reader based on their tone?
- How can tone be used to shape the way a reader interprets a poem?

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So, How Do They Change Poems?

Mood: Style and tone set the **mood** or feeling of the poem. A poem with a playful style and serious tone might make the reader feel confused or amused.

Meaning: The tone helps the reader understand how the poet feels about the topic. A serious tone might make a poem feel important, while a playful tone might make it feel less serious.

Reader's Experience: Together, style and tone make the poem feel a certain way. They guide how the reader understands and enjoys the poem.

In short, **style** is how the poet writes, and **tone** is how the poem makes the reader feel. Both work together to give the poem its meaning and feeling.

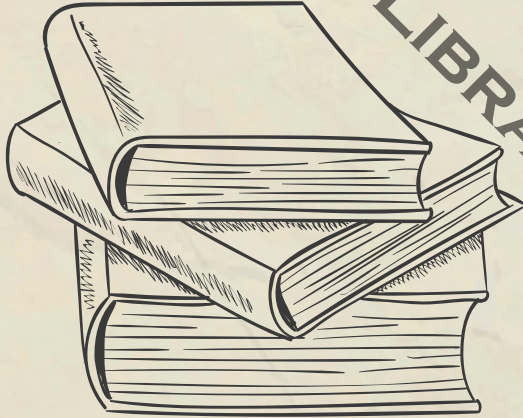
Exit Ticket

Before leaving, answer the following questions in your notebooks:

1. **"What tone or style did you experiment with today?"**
(e.g., playful vs. serious, formal vs. informal)
2. **"How did it change the way you approached your poem?"**
(e.g., Did you choose different vocabulary? Did you change your line structure?)

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10

Editing & Revising

Peer-Review & Feedback

Imagery Exercise

What's happening in the image?

What emotions are evoked by the scene?

What can you imagine smelling, hearing, or touching if you were in that moment?



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Writing Task

Look closely at the photo of **Martin Luther King Jr. speaking during the Civil Rights Movement**. Write a poem that captures the moment he is in, as if you were standing there in the crowd, experiencing the energy of the speech. Focus on the emotions, the atmosphere, and the powerful words that were being spoken.

- **Consider the emotions** of the people around him: hope, determination, anxiety, or excitement.
- **Think about the sounds** of the crowd, the clapping, and King's voice.
- **Describe the setting:** Was the weather hot, cool, or tense? What might the crowd look like? What about the backdrop?
- Focus on **the tone of King's words** and how they might have made the crowd feel.

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Peer Review Stations

You will swap poems with another student for a peer review session - THREE - times.

Focus on:

- **Word Choice**
- **Structure**
- **Literary Devices**

How to Rotate Through Stations:

1. **Group Students** into small groups (3-4 students). Each student will bring their draft to the stations and provide feedback to one another.
2. **Station Timing:** Give each group 10-12 minutes per station. After each round, students rotate to the next station.
3. **Peer Feedback:** At each station, one student will read their poem aloud while others write feedback based on the station's focus. They should also take notes on their own poem for potential revisions.

Handout for Stations

Peer Review Stations Handout

Objective:

Engage in focused peer review to help revise and improve your poem. You will rotate through 3 stations, each focusing on a different aspect of poetry. Use this handout to guide your feedback and revision process.

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Exit Ticket

1. How did writing from the perspective of the crowd affect the tone of your poem?
2. What emotional response did you aim to evoke through your poem?

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11

Formatting

How to Format Poems

Writing Task

Instructions:

- Write an **introductory paragraph** or **author's note** for your portfolio.
- In your note, explain the following:
 - **Themes:** What themes run through your poems?
 - **Inspiration:** What inspired you to write these poems?
 - **Style Choices:** How would you describe the style of your poetry (e.g., free verse, rhyming, abstract)?
 - **Message:** What do you want your readers to take away from your portfolio?

POETRY

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BY

THE POETRY

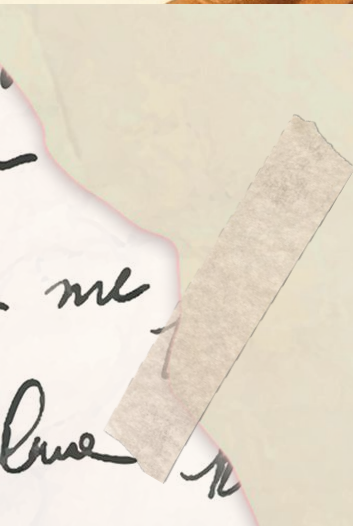


Love is the best

Friendship is the best

The best of all

This world is full of love
And all is well



Guided Portfolio Planning

Steps to creating a cohesive portfolio:

- **Select your best poems:** Choose the poems that best represent your work.
- **Organize your poems:** Arrange them in a way that flows well, either by theme, style, or chronological order.
- **Font choices:** Discuss how font types and sizes can affect the tone and readability of the poem.
- **Visual appeal:** Consider adding visual elements like borders, artwork, or backgrounds that complement your poems.
- **Consistency:** Ensure that the portfolio's layout remains consistent (same font style, margins, spacing) throughout.

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Draft a Layout

Portfolio Layout & Design:

- Students will select their best poems and begin deciding how they want to organize them. This includes thinking about:
 - **Title of the Portfolio:** Choose a title that captures the essence of your work.
 - **Fonts and Arrangement:** Decide on fonts that reflect the tone of the poems (e.g., a whimsical font for a playful poem or a serious, bold font for an emotional piece).
 - **Presentation Style:** Should the poems be single-spaced or double-spaced? Are there any visuals (images, drawings, borders) they want to include?

Tips

Play with Words: Use rhyming words or alliteration (repeating sounds) to make it fun.

Reflect Your Style: The title should match how you write. If your poem is light and fun, your title can be too.

Say It Out Loud: If the title sounds good when you say it, you're on the right track!

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Checklist

Portfolio Design Checklist

Before you turn in your portfolio, make sure you've completed these steps:

- **Poem Selection:** I've chosen my best poems that represent my style and themes.
- **Layout:** I've planned the order of my poems so they flow well together.
- **Formatting Consistency:**
 - **Digital:** I've used one font and size throughout my portfolio.
 - **Physical:** My handwriting is neat and readable, or my poems are printed neatly.
- **Title and Introduction:**
 - I've added a creative title that fits my work.
 - I've written an introduction explaining my themes and style.
- **Neatness:** My portfolio is organized, with poems clearly spaced and easy to read.
- **Artistic Touches:**
 - **Digital:** I've added images, borders, or fonts that match my theme (but didn't overdo it).
 - **Physical:** I've added creative touches like drawings or borders that don't distract from the poems.
- **Consistency Check:** Everything looks even, aligned, and formatted the same throughout.
- **Clarity Check:** My poems are easy to read and the design complements them.

Final Thought

Remember, your portfolio is a reflection of you as a poet. Take your time to make it neat, clear, and creative. It should show off your hard work and make your poems shine!

Good luck! 🌟

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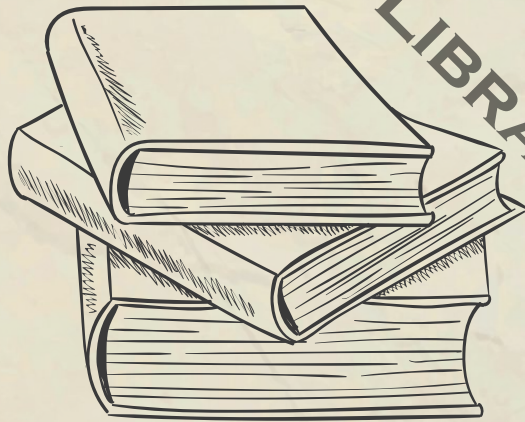
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Exit Ticket

1. What element of your Poetry Portfolio are you most excited about?
2. Why do you think this element is important?

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12

Poetic Café

Presentation Day!

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Presentation Day!

Poetry Portfolio Presentation Handout



Remember

Remember, this is a safe space for sharing your work. Your classmates will be supportive and encouraging, and this is a chance to share the hard work you've put into your portfolio.



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Rubric

Your presentation will be assessed on:

- **Poem Selection:** Did the poem you chose showcase your best work?
- **Explanation of Stylistic Choices:** Did you clearly explain the poetic techniques you used?
- **Engagement and Delivery:** Were you clear and confident in your presentation? Did you engage the audience?
- **Reflection:** Did you thoughtfully reflect on your growth as a poet?

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Guiding Questions

When explaining your poem, consider the following:

- **Theme:** What is the main idea or message of your poem?
- **Tone:** What mood or emotion do you want the reader to feel?
- **Structure:** Why did you choose the form of the poem (e.g., free verse, rhyme, stanzas)?
- **Literary Devices:** Which devices did you use (e.g., metaphor, imagery, repetition)? How do they enhance the poem's meaning?
- **Personal Connection:** What inspired you to write this poem?

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You Did It!

Final Exit Ticket - Reflection

After your presentation, take a moment to reflect on your journey as a poet:

1. "How did you feel presenting your Poetry Portfolio?"
2. "What is one thing you learned about yourself as a poet through this process?"
3. "What did you learn about others?"
4. "2 stars and 1 wish for this presentation?"
 - **2 Stars:** Two things you did well during your presentation.
 - **1 Wish:** One thing you wish you could have done better.

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Final Exit Ticket

Write either a farewell poem to me or a poem on how you view poetry now compared to when we first started poetry.

What changed?

What stayed the same?

What should I do better next time?

What worked well?

More importantly, did you have fun?

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