

Poetry Project Guidelines Sheet

Activity #1: Recite a Poem

Choose a poem to recite in front of the class from memory. You will be given time in class to find a poem that you enjoyed reading or that you liked the message that the author is trying to send. Please be sure that you choose a poem that you understand because you will be answering questions about the poem you chose. Below are the standards that I will be assessing you on during your presentation so BE PREPARED AND PRACTICE!

- You used appropriate language for your audience
- You used clear diction
- Your tone was clear
- You adjusted your volume and tempo to stress important ideas in your poem
- You remembered all of the lines in your poem without taking awkward pauses.
- You dressed as the speaker or had props to make the poem come alive.
- The audience was able to hear you easily.

On the day of your presentation, you need to turn in a hard copy (either handwritten or typed) of the poem that you plan to recite to the class.

You will present your poem to the class on _____.

Activity #2: Poetry Questions Packet

Attached is a packet of questions that will enable you to reflect upon your poem and the message that the author is trying to convey. Please answer the questions in complete sentences and in cursive paying careful attention to spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. Please reread your answers to the questions after you have finished answering them to make sure that your meaning is clear and that what you wrote makes sense. You may want to have an adult check over your answers. This Poetry Questions Packet is to be turned in on the day of your presentation

Poetry Questions Packet

Directions: Answer the following questions about the poem you chose to recite to the class. Your answers need to be written in complete sentences and in cursive. You will lose ½ credit if your answers are not written in complete sentences and in cursive.

1. What is the title of the poem you chose to recite to the class? (3 points)

2. Who is the author of the poem you chose to recite to the class? (3 points)

3. How many stanzas does your poem you chose have? (3 points)

4. What person (1st/3rd) is your poem written in? (3 points)

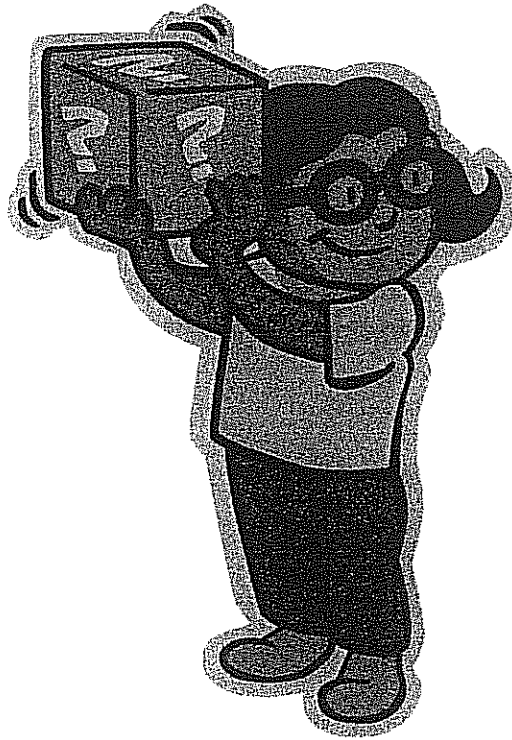
5. Who is speaking in the poem? Remember, it may not be the person who wrote the poem and it may not say. You may have to infer who the speaker is. (3 points)

6. What is the poem that you chose about? Complete a retelling of the poem in your own words. (6 points)

7. Why did you choose this poem to recite to the class? What drew you to it? What did you like about it? (4 points)

8. How did the poem make you feel when you read it? Explain. (4 points)

9. What kind of person would you recommend this poem to? Why do you think they would like the poem you chose? (6 points)



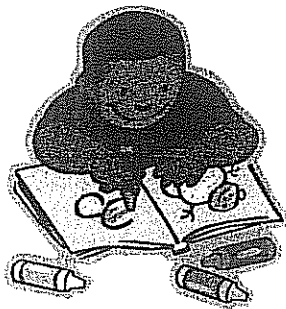
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_____ points out of 35 possible points = _____ % = _____

Activity #3: Write Your Own Poem

Write a poem on a topic of your choice. Your poem must be written using one of the forms we learned in class: acrostic, cinquain, concrete shape, or free verse. You will need to follow the steps below to complete this activity. You must also turn in your prewriting, rough draft, peer reflection sheet, poetry writing checklist, and a final copy of your poem to ensure that you took your time and that your poem was well thought out. This will be a writing grade.

1. Select the type of poem you wish to do from the four choices listed above. Then, see me to get the required prewriting materials. You must complete the prewriting information **BEFORE** you begin your rough draft. The prewriting activity needs to be turned in with your final product and will be graded.
2. Write your rough draft of your poem. You will receive time in class to work on it, but that may not be enough. You may need to work on your project at home too.
3. Once your rough draft is completed, you need to have a peer read your poem and fill out the Peer Reflection Sheet.
4. Look over the Poetry Writing Checklist to determine what your poem is expected to include. Refer to this checklist often throughout the writing process and complete it before writing your final draft. Turn the checklist in with your final draft.
5. Handwrite or type your final draft of your poem. If you type your poem, you may choose the font and size that you want. Keep in mind that your final draft must be legible. Some fonts are difficult to read. You also may want to decorate your poem. Many poems often have illustrations to bring their poem to life.



Peer Reflection Sheet

Directions: Once you have written your rough draft of your poem, give it to a peer that you trust, and have them complete the tasks and answer the questions below.

Person completing the Peer Reflection Sheet _____

1. Read through the poem without making any corrections. Read it to determine if the poem flows nicely and if it sounds okay. You want to make sure you understand its meaning.
2. Now read through the poem a second time and check for errors in spelling, capitalization, and punctuation. Circle any words that you think are misspelled and explain why you think they are misspelled. It is not your job to write the correct spelling. The person whose poem it is can correct the spelling.
3. Answer the following questions below.

1. Who do you think the poem is written for? Who is the audience that the poet is writing for? _____

2. What is the overall mood of the poem? Is it positive or negative? Does the poet use words that convey a positive or negative feeling? Explain.

3. What are some suggestions you have for the poet to make their poem better? Please be honest.

Poetry Writing Checklist

Directions: After reviewing each section, mark a check in the box.

- Have you checked the title of your poem? Does it make sense and add something to your poem? Does it catch the reader's attention?
- Have you looked at the form of your poem? How does it look and how does it sound? Read it aloud to hear how it sounds. Even the way it is arranged on the page will add or detract from a reader's enjoyment.
- What about capitalization? In traditional poetry the first word of each line is capitalized. This is not always true with free verse. You may want to capitalize just a few of the words for emphasis.
- Is your poem clear? Will it be too difficult to understand? Is it complete? Did you leave anything out?
- Did you check your poem for spelling and punctuation? Does your poem flow? Do you need to rewrite any parts?
- Is your poem in meter? Does it have a rhythm you can sense? Try clapping or tapping a finger or foot while you read it aloud or silently.
- If your poem rhymes, do your rhymes work naturally? Do they sound right?
- Is your poem easy to read? Do you need to type it or rewrite it more carefully?

MAKE YOUR CORRECTIONS OR CHANGES AND YOU'RE READY TO WRITE
YOUR FINAL COPY!

