English 9

Pondering poetry & playing with words

pam haugland lled 314

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Unit Overview

This unit is designed to allow students to explore the world of poetry with enough guidance and as little restriction as possible. Students will be asked to look at a wide variety of poetry and explore its content and form, to experiment with their own words and ideas through various writing activities, and to read poetry aloud within small groups and in a "Poetry Slam" celebrating the beginning of their adventures within the poetic world.

The unit starts out with the generation of a working definition of what poetry is, moves on through a number of form poetry to free verse poetry and comes back to other semi-structured types of poetry. It involves a variety of reader response activities that allow the student to bring their own influences to the meaning of the text. This unit also involves a wide variety of activities that have students explore different types of form and free verse poetry. The unit concludes with student portfolios that will encompass all of their work over the term and with a unit test.

Overview of Lessons

Lesson # & Title:

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Lesson 1: Perusing the World of Poetry

PLO's:

- · describe what they already know about, and previous experiences they have had with, specific topics
- interpret and report on information from selections they have read, heard, or viewed
- cite specific information from stories, articles, novels, poetry, or mass media to support their inferences and to respond to tasks related to the works

Objectives:

- to have students understand that poetry can be enjoyable, that there is poetry fro everyone!
- to have students practice sharing their experiences with others
- to have students look at *why* they are interested in a particular work

Time	Activity & Objectives	Teacher's Role	Learner Activities	Assessment
5 min.	Hook: One of these things is not like the other.	Read a grocery list and two simple poems.	 Write down their thoughts as they listen and look at the works presented. Which one is the imposter? Vote on the poem 	
20 min.	What is Poetry: Brainstorming & Discussion	 Explain task. Facilitate discussion. Develop a working definition of poetry as per discussion. 	 Independently (5min): Brainstorm what are qualities that define a poetry? What forms can poetry take? What is it that you like or dislike about poetry? As a whole (15min): Discuss responses 	
40 min.	Poetry Scramble	 Hand out poetry anthologies and collections Explain Task 	 Students browse poetry books to find one that stands out Write poem out on a plain sheet of paper 	Poem of choice will be entered into their poetry portfolio. Participation.
3 min	Portfolio Description	Explain the assignment. Due date is the day of the unit test. DON'T THROW YOUR WORK AWAY!!	• Start portfolio by putting 1 st poem in a safe spot in binder.	
7 min	Convincing Words	• Provide wrap-up task (letter) and ask to complete for homework.	• Write a letter to a friend <i>explaining</i> why they should read the poem you selected today.	To be placed in portfolio

Materials Needed: a collections of poetry anthologies and compilations (enough for 1/student)

Lesson 2: Courting Tactics 101

PLO's

- cite specific information from stories, articles, novels, poetry, or mass media to support their inferences and to respond to tasks related to the works
- evaluate and modify their own roles in group interactions in a variety of contexts
- paraphrase and summarize information from a variety of print and non-print sources

Objectives:

- To introduce students to sonnets
- To explore students prior knowledge and opinions of sonnets

Time	Activity	Teacher's Role	Learner Activities	Assessment
10 min.	Housekeeping	 Collect homework Have 3-4 volunteers share their poem with the class 	 Hand in letter to a friend Share a poem or listen 	Mark letters for completion and provision of explanations
5 min.	Hook: Cheesy Pick-Up lines.	 Pick-up line OH Ever tried using a pick-up line? Try using a sonnet instead! 		
15 min.	The Form & FUNction of an English Sonnet: "Shall I compare thee to a Bale of Hay?"	 Read sonnet parody to class Do you know what the real first line is? What kind of poem is this? Describe English Sonnet → rhythm → rhyme scheme 	 Listen to poem Participate in discussion Ask questions Take notes 	
30 min.	Puzzling Over Sonnets (Jigsaw)	 Provide handout with sonnets on it Provide instructions on group tasks Divide class into small 'expert' groups Monitor class & facilitate the switching of groups 	 Read given sonnet aloud in group Observe the rhyme scheme Discuss what the poem is saying In new group, read sonnet aloud & share reflections on it with the group 	Are students reading the poem out loud? Are they discussing the sonnet?
15 min.	Exit Slip	 Wrap-up lesson with group summaries of each sonnet Exit Slip: What did you like about sonnets, what did you find difficult? Challenge: Write a sonnet to put in your portfolio! 	Work independently on exit slip.	
-	play: none! ials Needed: (OH with pick-up lines, sonnet l	handouts, reader response wor	ksheet.

Lesson 3: Poetic Attractions

PLO's

- evaluate the effectiveness of literary techniques including figurative language
- use an increasing repertoire of specialized terminology and subject-specific words with accuracy and precision
- demonstrate a willingness to explore a variety of genres and media •
- use efficient note-makin and note-taking strategies •

Objectives:

- To discover poetic devices through poetry itself
- To explore a new type of poem through writing

Time	Activity	Teacher's Role	Learner Activities	Assessment
10 min.	Housekeeping	 Review Sonnet Form Discuss Responses from homework 	Participate in discussion	
10 min.	Discovering Poetic Devices	• Provide task instructions	 Look back on the poem that they chose in Lesson 1 and pick out words and phrases that appealed to them Why do these words/phrases appeal to you? 	
30 min.	Poetic Devices Notes	 Prompt students to share their words/phrases What poetic device was used (if any)? Discuss aspects of the poetic device and see if anyone else had an example like the initial one given Write notes on overhead 	 Provide examples Recall manes of poetic devices previously learned Take notes 	Participation
10 min.	• Haikus, Tankas, & Cinquains	 Show and read aloud examples of these forms Briefly explain the rules of the forms 	• Identify poetic devices in the poems read	
15 min.	• Writing In Good Form	 Provide handout with descriptions of tankas and cinquians Put up and OH list of specific topics that students could choose to write on. 	 Write a tanka or a cinquain Make a final copy on _ a piece of blank paper and superimpose an image reflected in the poem over it 	Hand in and mark as per rubric Student's option to put in final portfolio

Homeplay. Finish your poem with picture superimposed

Lesson 4: Music To My Ears

PLO's

- · describe what they already know about, and previous experiences they have had with, specific topics
- identify and explain connections between what they read, hear, and view and their personal ideas and beliefs
- demonstrate an understanding of the main ideas, events, or themes of a variety of novels, stories, poetry, other print material, and electronic media

Objectives:

- To have students explore the choices they make in everyday life
- To observe how a chosen song's lyrics can convey a lot about an individual

Time	Activity	Teacher's Role	Learner Activities	Assessment
10 min.	Writing to Music	 Journal Prompt: What album (commercially available) would you take to a desert island? Why? Collect poems from last day. 	• Write a response to the prompt on the board.	Collect with portfolio
15 min.	• Class Playlist	 Class discussion about music today. What albums did you choose? How/why did you make your choice? Is there a difference between favourite album and an album you could listen to for three years? 	 Be considerate of other responses Provide insight into the discussion 	Evaluate ability to participate in a respectful conversation
25 min.	• Music to My Ears	 Read out lyrics of song of my favourite song Play song Ask for students' initial responses what's the difference? Which do you prefer? List the pros/cons of each form. Address why you chose the song, what you relate to, what it makes you think about, etc. (Have an overhead of the lyrics to help) 	 Jot down initial reactions to reading Jot down reactions to hearing the song Participate in discussion 	
25 min.	• Name That Tune!	 Prepare a mixed CD with radio tunes that students will have likely heard Split class into 2 teams & explain the game 	 Work in teams to name the title, author, and poetic device (BONUS) in the song line played Have fun! 	Evaluate teamwork Prize for the winning team
		a copy of the lyrics to your favourite		1 (1)
		CD player and Radiohead CD (subst rs to song selections, prizes.	itute your favourite song	and reflections

Lesson 5: Much Ado About Music

PLO's

- describe what they already know about, and previous experiences they have had with, specific topics
- cite specific information from stories, articles, novels, poetry, or mass media to support their inferences and to respond to tasks related to the works
- create a variety of personal, literary, technical, and academic communications, including poems, stories, and personal essays; oral and visual presentations; written explanations, summaries, and arguments; letters; and bibliographies

Objectives:

- To have students gain understand that there is more than one possible reading and understanding to a poem/song/ text
- To have students self-reflect on why they are attracted to a particular song

Time	Activity	Teacher's Role	Learner Activities	Assessment
10 min.	Island in the Sun – version 2 (Music Video)	Have students watch video then briefly discuss how music has been transformed into one person's interpretationmay not even be the song writer's interpretation	Contemplate other possible interpretations of the video.	
20 min.	Your Be the Videographer	 Put students into groups of 4 Provide a set of lyrics to each group 	 Students will develop how they would visually represent the song Each group will share their vision 	Groups submit their ideas, check for level of completion
30 min.	Finding Identity in Music	 Silent Writing activity. Instruct students to get out: paper, pen, and song they chose Have writing prompts on OH (see appendix) 4-5 minutes per prompt Quick debrief of activity 	Respond to each prompt in terms of their song and their personal experiences.	Include song and response in portfolio
5 min.	Music Video: Island in the Sun – Version 1.	• Demonstrate that different people DO have different ideas on the same lyrics	Notice how the same song is depicted differently	
10 min.	Read and Reflect	• Handout poem: This is a Photograph of Me	• Students read the poem (aloud) and write a brief response to it.	

Lesson 6: Trying on Shoes

PLO's

- use a variety of planning tools and strategies to focus and organize communications for various purposes and audiences
- monitor their own work for correctness of spelling and punctuation
- demonstrate a willingness to explore a variety of genres and media
- use language to prompt and support others

Objectives:

• To explore different points of view through poetry

Time	Activity	Teacher's Role	Learner Activities	Assessment
10 min.	One window is all I need	 Have poetry prompt on board. Tell students it will go in their portfolio Provide an example Briefly debrief 	• Write a poem starting with the prompt.	To be but in portfolio.
20 min.	"This is a Photograph of Me." → emphasis on different points of view	 Hook: show photographs of myself Read Atwood poem aloud How are our photographs different? Who is the speaker? What questions do you have about the poem? 	 Participate in discussion. Generate different ideas about who the speaker is. How have your ideas change from your initial reading? 	
20 min.	"Pose"	 Put students into groups of 4 Direct students to poem "Pose" by Zoe Landale 	 Individually, look at poem and write down what strikes you and what questions you have. In small groups, exchange thoughts and questions. Question the text from 2 other points of view. 	Hand in questions, thoughts, and questions from another viewpoint
15 min.	Walking in Another's Shoes	Help students with questions and make sure students are on-task	• Write a free verse poem to compliment Landale's poem "Pose" or Atwood's poem "This is a Photograph of Me."	To be put in portfolio.
10 min.	Sharing and Wrap-up	 Prompt students to share Assign homework task as per below. 	 Some students share what they have written Others listen 	

Lesson 7: Childhood Games

PLO's:

- demonstrate an understanding of the main ideas, events, or themes of a variety of novels, stories, poetry, other print material, and electronic media
- interpret details and draw conclusions about the information presented in a variety of illustrations, maps, charts, graphs, and other graphic forms
- create a variety of personal, literary, technical, and academic communications, including poems, stories, and personal essays; oral and visual presentations; written explanations, summaries, and arguments; letters; and bibliographies

Objectives:

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- To have students practice their writing skills
 - To have students explore the effect of imagery on them

Time	Activity	Teacher's Role	Learner Activities	Assessment
5 min.	Housekeeping	• How did your family member respond to the poem you read them?	Share responses with the group.	
5 min.	Reflecting on Childhood I	Share a personal memory of childhood	 Start thinking about childhood memories Volunteer to Read Atwood poem "Game After Supper" 	
30 min.	Reflecting on Childhood II: Mini Writing Workshop	 Talk briefly about imagery as us personal memory Explain tasks: Task 1: Free writing on merory Task 2: Transforming into priece of poster board (15 mrogeneous construction) Task 3: Put an image onto the second construction 	mories (12 min) poetic writing an putting onto 3x5 nin)	To be included in portfolio.
15 min.	"Because I Never Learned"	 Guided exploration of poem "Because I never Learned" Initial reactions to imagery? Cruel or compassionate? What kind of relationship do the father and son have? How would the speaker have reacted now in the same situation? 		Assess who is participating and find ways to have others participate
15 min.	"Memory from Childhood"	Provide handout and direct to poem "Memory from Childhood"	• Working with a partner, read the poem aloud and then answer the questions on the handout.	
5 min	Exit Slip	 Which poem did you enjoy the most and why? Collect exit slip as students leave 	• Write a couple of sentences on a slip of paper as a pass to leave class.	Read and comment on responses for next class
		x5 picture & prose poem poster board cut into 3x5 piece	s, pencil crayons	

Lesson 8: The Sound of Silence

PLO's:

- · describe what they already know about, and previous experiences they have had with, specific topics
- interpret and report on information from selections they have read, heard, or viewed
- interpret details and draw conclusions about the information presented in a variety of illustrations, maps, charts, graphs, and other graphic forms

Objectives:

- To have students think about the meaning of silence and their relationship with it
- To explore ways of describing and depicting what we read

Time	Activity	Teacher's Role	Learner Activities	Assessment
10 min.	<i>Silent</i> Journal Writing	 Provide prompt: How does silence make you feel? Hand back exit slips. 	• Write a response to the question posed.	To be handed in with portfolio.
25 min.	Song: "The Sound of Silence"	 Hook: Play song. Questions to pose: What is Paul Simon saying a What sounds is he claiming Does silence have sound? What's an awkward silence' Talk about bus rides in these Student questions 	it makes? ?	
15 min.	Busing It!	 Have students read aloud the poem: "A note on the public transportation system" by Nowlan (x2) Find 2 poetic devices in here Assign Reader Response task 	• Write a paragraph or 2 about a similar experience (hand in next class)	Read paragraph for response
20 min.	Public Transportation Tableaux	 Organize class into 6 groups Assign each group a stanza to make a tableaux of Explain what a tableaux is and set them free! (5 min) Facilitate the sharing of the still pictures. 	 5 min to prepare tableaux of their stanza 10 minutes to share tableaux 	Are the facial expressions appropriate? Does their pose reflect the image created in the poem?
5 min.	Piano Man	Play song as closure to the class. Describe what the song is saying.		

Materials Needed: "Sound of Silence" and "Paino Man" lyrics on OH's and music on cd's, cd player

Lesson 9: Filling the Void

PLO's

- demonstrate an understanding of the main ideas, events, or themes of a variety of novels, stories, poetry, other print material, and electronic media
- use an increasing repertoire of specialized terminology and subject-specific words with accuracy and precision

Objectives:

- To observe how word choice and grammar are important in poetry
- To respond to a poem and then follow up with further reflection
- To use poetry to explore poetic devices further

Time	Activity	Teacher's Role	Learner Activities	Assessment
10 min.	Recreate a Poem Challenge!	 Using "Loneliness" by Emma LaRocque, write out all the words randomly in list form leaving out punctuation. Put a variety of options up onto the 	 Reconstruct the poem inserting punctuation marks where you feel necessary Compare with person next to you Are they the same? he board and ask students to look 	Participation –
15 min.	Loneliness??	 at each one and explain what each Do the meanings change? Which one is the real thing? Show actual poem, but continue How does your reaction to the the order of the the the the the the the the the the	th variation means. Vote. looking at it. he poem change? put loneliness? th her viewpoint of loneliness?	does everyone make a contribution?
25 min.	Moving Away from Loneliness	 Read "No Man is an Island" by John Donne Have students write a series of responses as described under Learner Activities 	 Write down some thoughts you have when you first hear this poem Write down 3 questions (7 min) Pair Up with someone and share thought and questions, discuss these questions (5 min) Write a 2nd response. Comment on how your response has changed. (8 min) 	Hand in Responses by end of class. Read responses looking for questions and new understandings.
15 min.	Seek and You Shall Find	• Handout student worksheet and provide instructions for task.	• Students will look back through all of the poems and songs they have encountered in this unit and find examples of at least 10 poetic devices	Students will hand in this work with the crossword puzzle they create next day.

Lesson 10: Sound, Found & More

PLO's

- demonstrate a willingness to explore a variety of genres and media
- use an increasing repertoire of specialized terminology and subject-specific words with accuracy and precision
- apply various strategies to generate and shape ideas

Objectives:

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- To have students explore various poetic writing forms
- To have students create a learning activity and opportunity for each other

Time	Activity	Teacher's Role	Learner Activities	Assessment
5 min.	Video Clip: Bull Durham Credo	Play clip and instruct students to focus on the credo	Observe the form that Bill Durham's credo takes	
40 min.	Poetry Writing Carousel	 Explain the process, put students into groups (4-5) Set up 6 stations (2 of each): Bill Durham Credo Sound Poems Found Poems 	• Students travel through all three stations and write a poem according to the station instructions	All 3 poems are to be put in portfolio.
25 min.	Crossword Creation	 Provide crossword puzzle handout Explain task Puzzle will be redistributed in the class as a study aid for someone else. 	 Individual work Use examples and poetic devices from previous class to develop a crossword puzzle 	Crosswords to be completed by a fellow classmate and handed in before unit test.
5 min.	Closing Remarks	 What did you learn today? Which form of poetry did you enjoy the most? Reminder about the crossword redistribution next class. 	Share thoughts about experiences and writing poetry in general.	

Homework: Complete poems from the stations if not done, complete crossword puzzle and answer key for next day.

Materials Needed: 5-6 objects that make sounds (when bounced, touched etc.), handouts for carousels

Lesson 11: Concrete Structures

PLO's:

- organize details and information about material they have read, heard, or viewed using a variety of written or graphic forms
- interpret details and draw conclusions about the information presented in a variety of illustrations, maps, charts, graphs, and other graphic forms

Objectives:

- To have fun with words
- To have students experiment with shape and form in relation to poetic writing

Time	Activity	Teacher's Role	Learner Activities	Assessment
10 min.	'Wordles' Worksheet	 Demonstrate the idea behind wordless Provide wordles (brainteasers) 	Attempt to find the literal meaning of the wordles.Get creative juices flowing	
10 min.	Why Wordles?	 Why did I have you do that? How does it relate to poetry? Go over a couple as a class. Introduce poem by bp Nichol "landscape: 1" 	 Share responses Make the mental jump from wordles to concrete poems 	
15 min.	Exploring Concrete	 Correlating form and meaning. Pointing our various forms of coabstract, others concrete images) Look at "Football Forms," "Ice of others of your choice) What does the shape convey How does the form affect of owned on the shape do it j) Cream" and "Sweethearts" (or y? ur appreciation?	
23 min.	Concrete Creation	 Provide a few prompts on board and set students off to create a concrete poem Create one yourself to share! 	 create your own concrete poem (15 min) Some suggestions: the rising sun, a cat hopping across a fence, or a pirouetting ballerina. share poems in small groups (8 min) 	To be included in portfolio.
15 min.	Student Directed Time	 Provide possibilities for tasks to work on Ensure students are working on some sort of task and answer questions that arise Marks can be assigned for work ethic 	 Create a title page for portfolio Compile portfolio elements Practice selected poem for next class 	Are students working on something?

2 min.	Concrete Wrap-up	 Share a concrete poem I created Remind them about handing in portfolios the day of the unit test Reminder about Poetry Slam next class 	Take note of what they need to do for homeplay		
Homework: finish portfolio compilation, prepare for unit test, prepare for poetry slam presentation next classMaterials Needed: OH's of some concrete poem examples to be discussed					

Lesson 12: Poetry Slam

PLO's

- use a variety of planning tools and strategies to focus and organize communications for various purposes and audience
- demonstrate pride and satisfaction in using language to create and express thoughts, ideas, and feelings in a variety of forms
- create a variety of communications designed to persuade, inform, and entertain classroom and other audiences
- create a variety of personal, literary, technical, and academic communications, including poems, stories, and personal essays; oral and visual presentations; written explanations, summaries, and arguments; letters; and bibliographies
- demonstrate confidence in using language in a variety of formal and informal contexts, both inside and outside the classroom
- use language to participate appropriately in celebrations of special events and accomplishments

Objectives:

- To gain a further appreciation for oral readings of poetry
- To share favourite poems and how a bond is formed between student and poem
- To have some fun!

Time	Activity	Teacher's Role	Learner Activities	Assessment
5 min.	Housekeeping	 Collect portfolios Explain how the Poetry Slam Will Run 	Hand in poetry portfolio	See portfolio rubric
60 min.	• Poetry Slam	 Answer questions and set up Slammin' area (Possibilities include: a funky chair or stool or mood lighting) Draw names of students to determine order of presentations Listen, Observe, Take notes for evaluation 	 Listen & watch their peers present Be respectful of each other (no talking) Perform when their name is drawn 	See attached rubric
10 min.	Debrief & Kudos	 Facilitate discussion of the poem selections and performances Reminder of unit test date 	Provide positive feedback to peers and talk about poems they enjoyed	

Materials Needed: stool, funky lighting, bohemian-style clothes etc.

Appendices

A. Teachers Notes, Overheads, and Student Handouts:

i.	Lesson 1	A-1
ii.	Lesson 2	A-2
iii.	Lesson 3	A-5
iv.	Lesson 4	A-9
v.	Lesson 5	A-11
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Appendix

Poetry Portfolio

Over this unit on poetry, you will be required to create a portfolio that is a reflection of what you have learned over the month. Please be sure to keep all your work, as that will allow you to have more choice in what ends up in your portfolio in the end.

The following are the requirements for your portfolio:

- 1. Title Page (5) with a title; your name, block, date; illustration(s) or abstract design
- 4 poetic works by other authors (4) this should include the lyrics you will bring to class and the poem from the poetry scramble
- 3. 7 poems that you have written in class (35)
- 4. 5 Reading/Writing Responses (50)

6 marks will also be allocated for organization and neatness of portfolio. This gives a total of 100 marks.

Enjoy the unit and remember: Don't throw out your work!!!

Due: The day of your unit test.

Sonnet #18: A Parody

Shall I compare thee to a bale of hay?
Thou art more dusty and far less neat.
Rough winds do toss thy mop about, I'd say,
Which looks far worse than hay a horse would eat.
Sometime thy squinty eye looks into mine
Through stringy, greasy hair that needs be trimm'd,
And ne'er a horse had such a stench as thine,
As though in stagnant sewers thou hast swimm'd.
Thy disgusting image shall not fade;
This my tortured mind and soul doth know.
O, I should love to hit thee with a spade;
And with that blow I hope that thou wouldst go.
So long as I can breathe, my eyes can see,

And I can run, I'll stay away from thee...

(sorry, Will)

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http://photodharma.tripod.com/sonnet18.htm

Cheesy "PICK-UP" LINES

- If I could rewrite the alphabet, I would put U and I together.
- Is your daddy a thief?
 No.
 Then who stole those diamonds and put them in your eyes?
- · Your eyes are as blue as window cleaner.
- Can I borrow a quarter? ["What for?"] I want to call my mom and tell her I just met the girl of my dreams.
- I didn't know that angels could fly so low!
- Can I have directions? ["To where?"] To your heart.

English 9 Poetry Pondering Poetry & Playing with Words

Sonnet 116

Let me not to the marriage of true minds Admit impediments. Love is not love Which alters when it alteration finds, Or bends with the remover to remove. O no, it is an ever-fixèd mark That looks on tempests and is never shaken; It is the star to every wand'ring bark, Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken. Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks Within his bending sickle's compass come; Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks, But bears it out even to the edge of doom.

If this be error and upon me proved, I never writ, nor no man ever loved.

--William Shakespeare

Sonnet 18

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 dimmed; And every fair from fair sometime declines, By chance, or nature's changing course untrimmed. But thy eternal summer shall not fade Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st; Nor shall death brag thou wand'rest 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.

-William Shakespeare

Sonnet XIV

If thou must love me, let it be for nought Except for love's sake only. Do not say 'I love her for her smile—her look—her way Of speaking gently,—for a trick of thought That falls in well with mine, and certes brought A sense of pleasant ease on such a day'— For these things in themselves, Beloved, may Be changed, or change for thee,—and love, so wrought, May be unwrought so. Neither love me for Thine own dear pity's wiping my cheeks dry,— A creature might forget to weep, who bore Thy comfort long, and lose thy love thereby! But love me for love's sake, that evermore Thou mayst love on, through love's eternity.

--Elisabeth Barret Browning

Women have loved before as I love now; At least, in lively chronicles of the past— Of Irish waters by a Cornish prow Or Trojan waters by a Spartan mast Much to their cost invaded—here and there, Hunting the amorous line, skimming the rest, I find some woman bearing as I bear Love like a burning city in the breast. I think however that of all alive I only in such utter, ancient way Do suffer love; in me alone survive The unregenerate passions of a day When treacherous queens, with death upon the tread, Heedless and willful, took their knights to bed.

---Edna St Vincent Millay

Getting the Ink Flowing: Writing Formulaic Poetry

The task at hand: Write either a tanka or a cinquain. Place your final copy on the piece of paper provided and superimpose a drawing that represents an image that your poem depicts over top of it. Good Luck and Have Fun!!

Here are the descriptions of the tanka and the cinquian:

The Tanka:

Like the Haiku, the Tanka is a 31 syllable poem that is typically written about a season or nature. It is a form of poetry that is older than the haiku. While the haiku has 3 lines with 5,7,5 syllables in each line respectively, the tanka has 5 lines with 5,7,5,7,7 syllables in each line respectively. Sometimes, in English we write a tanka with 5 lines, but no specific number of syllables per line.

Some examples:

yellow daffodils in both our gardens I praise mine more than my neighbor's though they look the same Debris in the wind Indiscriminately blinds Eyes searching a path To turn one's back to the wind Reveals but where one has been.

David Rice

Don Raye

The Cinquain:

This is a variation of the tanka developed by an American writer. It, too, has 5 lines, but has a different syllable pattern: 2, 4, 6, 8, 2.

For example:

The Warning

Just now, Out of the strange Still dusk...as strange, as still... A white moth flew. Why am I grown So cold?

Adelaide Crapsey

Some Topic Possibilities to pose:

- 1. Seaweed
- 2. Bark
- 3. Slush
- 4. Rain
- 5. Icicle
- 6. Tar
 7. Blade of grass
- 8. Twig
 9. Fog
- 10. Smog
- 11. Ant
- 12. Wind
- 13. Sea shell
- 14. Worm
- 15. Smoke
- 16. Mud
- 17. Puddle
- 18. Bee
- 19. Lightning
- 20. sunbeam

(I recommend providing 5-10 possibilities just to get students started. Too much choice can be overwhelming and hinder students from getting started.)

English 9 Poetry

Haikus:

Life Lesson

The fierce wind rages And I see how trees survive – They have learned to bend.

Don Raye

With a crunching sound The praying mantis devours The face of a bee.

Yamaguchi Seishi

English 9 Poetry

Literary Devices: Terms You Should Know (Fill in the definitions)

Alliteration

Allusion

Figurative Language

Free Verse

Hyperbole

Imagery

Lyric

Metaphor

Mood

Onomatopoeia

Oxymoron

Paradox

Personification

Repetition

Rhyme Scheme

Rhythm

Simile

Stanza

Symbol

Tone

Understatement

Karma Police

Karma police, arrest this man He talks in maths He buzzes like a fridge He's like a detuned radio

Karma police, arrest this girl Her Hitler hairdo is Making me feel ill And we have crashed her party

This is what you get This is what you get This is what you get when you mess with us

Karma Police I've given all I can It's not enough I've given all I can But we're still on the payroll

This is what you get This is what you get This is what you get when you mess with us

And for a minute there, I lost myself, I lost myself

And for a minute there, I lost myself, I lost my self

for a minute there, I lost myself, I lost myself for a minute there, I lost myself, I lost myself Phew, for a minute there, I lost myself, I lost myself

The Bends

Where do we go from here? The words are coming out all weird Where are you now, when I need you Alone on an aeroplane Fall asleep on against the window pane My blood will thicken

I need to wash myself again to hide all the dirt and pain 'Cause I'd be scared that there's nothing underneath

But who are my real friends? Have they all got the bends? Am I really sinking this low?

My baby's got the bends, oh no We don't have any real friends, no, no, no

Just lying in the bar with my drip feed on Talking to my girlfriend, waiting for something to happen I wish it was the sixties, I wish I could be happy I wish, I wish, I wish that something would happen

Where do we go from here? The planet is a gunboat in a sea of fear And where are you? They brought in the CIA, the tanks and the whole marines To blow me away, to blow me sky high

My baby's got the bends We don't have any real friends

Just lying in the bar with my drip feed on Talking to my girlfriend, waiting for something to happen I wish it was the sixties, I wish I could be happy I wish, I wish, I wish that something would happen

I wanna live, breathe I wanna be part of the human race I wanna live, breathe I wanna be part of the human race, race, race, race

Where do we go from here? The words are coming out all weird Where are you now when I need you?

Radiohead Album – OK Computer

Musical Choices: Questions to Reflect Upon and Write About

1. Freewrite on the song that you chose.

2. What does it say about you? What in your background led you to that choice?

3. What were the runners-up and what meaning would you attach to them?

4. List the elements of the song that stand out to you: harmony, lyrics, rhythm etc.

Questions from: From Dylan to Donne: Bridging English & Music by Brock Dethier

How to Play Name That Tune!

- Prior to the class, prepare a CD that has a bunch of songs that students may know (some can be trickier than others, but they have to be able to get some of the answers, so think twice before using only the music YOU like).
- Prep the students for the game by putting them into teams of about
 6-8 and give them the following instructions:
 - a. Only the first few seconds of the song will be played, so listen carefully.
 - b. I will play the song 2x before moving onto the next song.
 - c. There will be 5 songs in each round.
 - d. You are to name the song, the singer/band, and a poetic device if you can find one in the lyrics. Put this information on a piece of paper.
 - e. Answers will be rotated to be marked by another group and the scores will be kept on the board.
 - f. Get ready to have some FUN!!
- 3. Follow the instructions above. Once a round of 5 songs is through, put up an OH with the right answers on them and allow the students time to mark each other's work.

English 9 Poetry

> THIS IS A PHOTOGRAPH OF ME It was taken some time ago. At first it seems to be a smeared print: blurred lines and grey flecks blended with the paper; then, as you scan it, you see in the left-hand corner a thing that is like a branch: part of a tree (balsam or spruce) emerging and, to the right, halfway up what ought to be a gentle slope, a small frame house. In the background there is a lake, and beyond that, some low hills. (The photograph was taken the day after I drowned. I am in the lake, in the center of the picture, just under the surface. It is difficult to say where precisely, or to say how large or small I am: the effect of water on light is a distortion but if you look long enough, eventually you will be able to see me.) Margaret Atwood

English 9 Poetry

Pose

Here we are arranged into set-pieces on the sofa. Manners by mother, & temper by Dad. Fear all our own.

I am fourteen, the eldest. I sit with one knee crossed, palm-on-palm gesture that says *Oh really?* We three girls have put on hauteur for the camera formally assumed mouths though the youngest's socks have collapsed at her ankles like panting dogs & her skirt bunches at the waist.

Our brother gazes at something invisible on the shag rug. His downed white lids give him the look of someone asleep o dreaming of stillness, a lizard lit green glass on a sunny wall. Somewhere far from here. Far from the shouting that will resume within moments after the *snick* of the shutter.

The middle girl has round cheeks & eyes that narrow warily. She whirls from one locus of strong emotion to the next, a compass needle pulled by forces for which she has no name. She will die when she is twenty without a word. In the photograph, she looks guilty already.

Zoe Landale

Pondering Poetry & Playing with Words

English 9 Poetry

Game After Supper

This is before electricity, it is when there were porches.

On the sagging porch an old man is rocking. The porch is wooden,

the house is wooden and grey; in the living room which smells of smoke and mildew, soon the woman will light the kerosene lamp.

There is a barn but I am not in the barn; there is an orchard too, gone bad, its apples like soft cork but I am not there either.

I am hiding in the long grass with my two dead cousins, the membrane grown already across their throats.

We hear crickets and our own hearts close to our ears; though we giggle, we are afraid.

From the shadows around the corner of the house a tall man is coming to find us:

He will be an uncle, if we are lucky.

Margaret Atwood

English 9 Poetry

Memory from Childhood

A chilly and overcast afternoon in winter. The students are studying. Steady boredom of raindrops across the windowpanes.

It is time for class. In a poster Cain is shown running away, and Able dead, not far from a red spot.

The teacher, with a voice husky and hollow, is thundering. He is an old man badly dressed, withered and dried up, who is holding a book in his hand.

And the whole children's choir is singing its lesson: one thousand times one hundred is one hundred thousand, one thousand time one thousand is one million.

A chilly and overcast afternoon in winter. The students are studying. Steady boredom of raindrops across the windowpanes.

Antonio Machado

Questions:

- 1. Do you identify with the speaker in this poem? Why/How?
- 2. Describe 3 images that stick out to you from this poem? Why do they stick out? Draw a sketch of one of them.
- 3. What do you think the speaker is trying to tell you about his school experiences?
- 4. Why do you think that the first paragraph is repeated at the end? What effect does this have on you?
- 5. What questions would you ask the author about this poem?

Answer on a separate sheet of paper in full sentences.

Because I never Learned (For my brother John)

Because I never learned how to be gentle and the country I lived in was hard with dead animals and men, I didn't question my father when he told me to step on the kitten's head after the bus had run over its hind quarters.

Now, twenty years later, I remember only: the silence of the dying when the fragile skull collapsed under my hard bare heel, the curved tongue in the dust that would never cry again and the small of my father's back as he walked tall away.

Patrick Lane

A Note on the Public Transportation System

It's not hard to begin a conversation with the person who happens to be seated nearest you, especially when she's been reading with apparent interest a book that's one of your favourites and can't find her matches.

The difficulty is once you've spoken you can never go back to being comfortable with silence,

even if you learn you've nothing to say and would rather not listen.

You can stop talking but you can't forget the broken wires dangling there between you.

You'll smile almost guiltily when your glances accidentally bump.

It may get so bad that one of you will have to pretend to fall asleep.

Alden Nowlan

"Loneliness" -- words Ah loneliness you without would I how know who without am

Instructions: Arrange the words to make a poem with the title "Loneliness." Put it what punctuation you feel is appropriate.

Loneliness

Ah loneliness, How would I know Who I am Without you?

Emma LaRocque

Bull Durham Credo:

In the movie *Bull Durham* Kevin Costner's character is asked what he believes in. His answer provides us with a poetic format. By following the formula below, tell what you believe in.

	I believe in the	
	the	
	·/////	
	But (something you don't believe in, i.e. ("but Sontag are self-indulgent, over-rated")	the novels of Susan
	I believe in	
	I believe in	
	I believe in	
	And I believe in	(longest)
for example:		
	I believe in the wisdom of elders,	
	the influence of peer pressure,	
	the importance of success,	
	the evil that exists in money,	
	the effectiveness of hard work,	
	dedication, courage, strength.	
	But the belief that you don't have to strive	
	for your goals is just outrageous.	
	I believe in the truth that will set you free,	
	I believe in love that will conquer all,	
	I believe in respect for others,	
	Courtesy, politeness, gratitude.	
	And I believe in the fact that tomorrow	
	isn't promised to you.	
	Tierra Jones (Grade 10)	

FOUND POEMS:

Look in the various magazines, newspapers, or books and pick out words on a page that will combine to create a poem of sorts....a found poem.

You could also look around the room to find words and objects to include or you could take a page out of the romance novel and cross out all words but a few to create a poem.

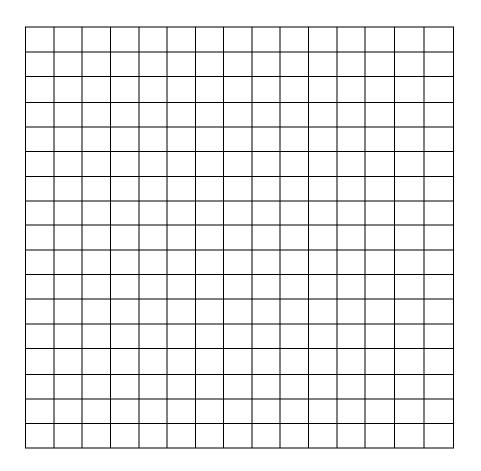
Good Luck and Have Fun!

Sound Poems

Think about the sound one of the objects before you makes. Create a poem that reflects this sound in rhythm, sound, form or all of the above!

Crossword Puzzle Creation:

The Task: Create your own crossword puzzle making use of the poetic terms and examples you found last class along with items discussed from the rest of the poetry unit up to date.



Your crossword puzzle needs to have at least 10 clues across and 10 clues for down. Feel free to adjust the size of the square to fulfill your needs or create your own. Finally, make sure to number your squares appropriately according to their clues and keep an answer key so that the classmate that does your puzzle can check his/her answer.

English 9 Poetry Pondering Poetry & Playing with Words

landscarpe:1

alongthehorizongrewanunbrokenlineoftrees

bp Nichol

The follow 2 poems are from http://jdc.concrete.com

snowballsnowball snowballsnowballsnowball snowballsnowballsnowballs snowballsnowballsnowballsnowball snowballsnowballsnowballsnowballsno snowballsnowballsnowballsnowballsnow snowballsnowballsnowballsnowballsnowballsnowba snowballsnowballsnowballsnowballsnowballsnowba snowballsnowballsnowballsnowballsnowballsnowba snowballsnowballsnowballsnowballsnowballsnowba snowballsnowballsnowballsnowballsnow snowballsnowballsnowballsnowballsno snowballsnowballsnowballsnowball snowballsnowballsnowballs snowballsnowballsnowball snowballsnowball

Billy Eckles

River

4 a m the river me'n the woman gettin up the mist floats over glass we squeak over a clean glass ripple yr finger over a clean glass & hear the morning birds rising the mist boat over we lean forward into the mist morning soft splash of the boat-fish the morning we see the sun & morning the sun of our morning brings us up the river * * * * * image the river imagine the river morning the sun-mist rising

we float * * * * * * * come river we come come river we float into your now wind now wind rising mist sun float into your now river light morning we come into your day our river we come * * * * * * river we have seen yr morning river we have seen yr glory river coming into the new day the new river filled with fish & stumps river our answer for today * * * * * stop at a light lighthouse river it is day see not the day lighthouse see not the day we have stopped lighthouse buoy floating on rock

in current river float on rock

we have stopped to be yr glory light-buoy yr glory on a wide river barge on a wide river bridge over a barge river bird over a bridge boy over a bird river we have stopped go feel yr glory river light on a hot day * * * * * * * * float on river your mud on a hot day float on river we have found our way we float river take us into the day come float river take us * * * * * * * fish big fish black cat black cat-fish swimming big how big is the biggest in you river how big is your biggest cat-river through sly eyes river you move on holding the prairie to the sea & the cat-fish river how big? * * * * * * * it is my soil you take river it is my soil you are taking river to the sea it is my farm river from spring floods gone now river

it is i who remain river washed of all soil it is i who must return river to your waters now dark brown i come river to be reborn it is a high bridge river it is a high bridge you carry under here i do not stand on the downwater side now river i have come to return i have come & will follow to the things you have taken from me river you have taken my soil river you have taken it to the sea i will follow river i will follow now & be un-river will you take me? * * * * * I have seen yr end river i have seen you die to one greater river i have seen you tame river when yr glory is spent you are unanswerable river exist you undead you can be taken river you can pass d i е

Tom Nagel

&

An UPHILL BATTLE	Working Overtime	The Bottom of the List
Bored (board) Silly	Chinese Laundry	Ladies Underwear
Pullover Sweater	Once Upon a Time	Three Degrees below Zero
Headlines	Headquarters	Shattered Dreams
It's a small world after all	Kiss and make up	Walking backwards
Age before Beauty	Law of Diminishing Returns	Above and Beyond the Call of Duty!
Chip Off the Old Block	Big Man on Campus	Unfinished Business
Split Second Timing	The Ayes Have It	Bad Timing
I Understand	Last of the Mohicans	Clarinet Solo
Wind Beneath My Wings	Pardon Me	empty box