

POETRY PROMPTS

Need some poetic inspiration? Pick a random number, and follow the Instructions. Submit your poetry submissions at the desk.

1. Ask a friend to write down 2 unrelated words. Tell them to be creative. Rearrange those words however you want. This is the title of your poem.
2. Write an acrostic poem based on the word “Fragility.”
3. Create a shape poem representing a human flaw. Fear, anger, jealousy.
4. Write a soft poem about something sharp.
5. Think of a topic you’d like to write about. Now go for a walk. Notice everything. Look for metaphors that relate back to your topic. Write a poem.
6. Pick a number between 1 and 154. Look up the Shakespearean sonnet of that number (Google “Shakespearean Sonnet #”). Use all of the words from the first line somewhere in your poem.
7. Write a poem about love and your least favourite season.
8. Ask for a discarded book from the library. Create a black-out poem by crossing out words on the page, and leaving others.
9. Write a poem as though you are an alien visiting earth for the first time. Read “A Martian Sends a Postcard Home” by Craig Raine for inspiration.
10. Write a Haiku about waiting a very long time for something to happen.
11. Create a type of poetry that you have never heard of before. A pantoum or a landays. See the **Try a New Type of Poetry** sheet for more ideas.
12. Write a poem to yourself in 20 years.
13. Write a free verse poem about rules.
14. Think about how much you love pizza. Channel that passion into a poem.
15. Imagine an extreme character. Someone who is ridiculously clumsy or lopsided or honest. Write a Dr. Seuss-esque rhyming poem about their adventures.

For more poetry prompts check out www.litbridge.com, www.creative-writing-now.com, or www.poetryprompts.tumblr.com

