

## USAGE OF POETRY WRITING ACTIVITIES AS A WAY OF TEACHING FL ONLINE

Usserbayeva M.M.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>MA, senior teacher,  
Abylai Khan KazUIR and WL,  
Almaty, Kazakhstan  
e-mail:madina\_userbay@mail.ru

**Abstract.** The purpose of this article is to discuss strategies for writing poetry with ELLs, presents an overview of poetry forms that can be used effectively in writing lessons, and suggests some ideas for ways to share student poetry online. These tasks can be used for students with different levels of language and modified depending on their level.

**Keywords:** teaching poetry, poetry prompts, poetry forms, poetry exercises, poetry strategies.

The rapid development of information technologies lead to the rising requirement of using new methods and technologies in teaching foreign language. One of creative ways to teach students clearly express their ideas by using words is poetry. Teacher can start doing it by introducing the poetry of outstanding poets to the class for the analysis and discussion. Such work can inspire students to develop poetry writing skill in them step by step. Students can join to the world of poetry by participating in different Poetry Clubs and Forums. Moreover, teacher can use Facebook as a place to build up a Poetry Club with their students where they can share their works. Besides many of the poems can be archived, students can set up websites, separate poetry pages, and you tube channels. Students can also participate in a different social platforms like Poetizer. Poetizer is a social network designed for the publication, sharing and reading of poetry.

Writing poetry is a great exercise for English language learners. It gives them a chance to experiment with language and vocabulary, and to freely share their ideas without the confinement of perfect grammar or firm structures.

Here are some suggestions for getting started:

- 1) Read a variety of poems first. It is recommended to read a couple of different kinds of poems before assigning any writing activities.
- 2) Introduce different poetry forms as models. Read some poems that fit the structure or format, discuss unique rhyming or line patterns, and then have students try writing on their own, using the poems read in class as a model. Focus on each form before moving on to the next one so that students have a chance to master it.
- 3) Use poetry throughout the curriculum. You may also wish to use poetry writing as an activity in other content-area lessons, or trying having students write some of these poems as riddles that their classmates have to figure out.
- 4) Begin with simple poetry styles, as these forms offer a lot of structure and students of all English levels will find them easier to work with [1].

Here are different types of poetry forms:

**Sonnet** – A short, rhyming poem of 14 lines

**Haiku** – A poem of 3 lines where the first is 5 syllables, the middle is 7 syllables, and the last is 5.

**Acrostic** – A poem where the first letter of each line spells a word that fits with the theme of the poem or exposes a deeper meaning.

**Limerick** – This is a 5-line witty poem with the first, second, and fifth lines rhyme as do the other two with each other.

**Epic** – This type of poetry is a lengthy narrative poem celebrating adventures or accomplishments of heroes.

**Couplet** – This can be a part of a poem or stand alone as a poem of two lines that rhyme.

**Free verse** – This type of poem doesn't follow any rules and is free written poetry by the author [2].

Here is some ideas for creating a poem.

### **Acrostic**

Students write their name or a key vocabulary word in capital letters down the left side of the page. Then they insert a word that begins with each vocabulary word. It may be helpful to brainstorm first. The vocabulary words can be descriptive or can refer to things that are important to the student, such as a favorite sport or musician. For example:

*Rio de Janeiro*

*Organized*

*Soccer*

*Affectionate*

It is possible to start with a class acrostic poem about a word, historic figure, or person that everyone in the class will know. Students can also try writing acrostics about everyday objects, places, feelings, or ideas.

### **Name Poem**

Another (auto)biographical form is the name poem. While many name poems use acrostics, another common format uses this 10-line structure, which encourages students to think about themselves, their family, and what matters to them.

Line 1 Your first name

Line 2 "It means" then 3 adjectives that describe you.

Line 3 "It is the number" followed by your favorite number

Line 4 Describe a color using "It is like" but don't name the color

Line 5 "It is" and name something you remember experiencing with friends or family that makes you smile.

Line 6 "It is the memory of" and name a person who is or has been significant to you

Line 7 "Who taught me" and list 2 abstract concepts like honesty

Line 8 "When s/he" then refer to something that person did that illustrates the qualities in Line 7

Line 9 "My name is" your first name

Line 10 Begin with “It means” and use 1 or 2 sentences to state something important you believe in life

### **5 W's Poem**

This format is a great tool for teaching students about the 5 W question words (Who? What? When? Where? Why?)

Line 1: Who or what is the poem about?

Line 2: What action is happening?

Line 3: When does the action take place? (a time)

Line 4: Where does the action take place? (a place)

Line 5: Why does this action happen? (a reason)

### **Cinquain**

Teaching Cinquain poetry has an easy format and the opportunities for developing the nuances of vocabulary. Students of all English levels were able to create a wonderful selection of poetry — funny, sad, and beautiful. The outline follows:

One word = topic

Two words = description

Three words = adverbs

Four words = actions (-ing verbs)

One word = sum it up word

Depending on the English level of the students, the format could be changed to fewer lines. Students can work in pairs to review each other's poems and suggest some options of different vocabulary words. Students can also write cinquains about themselves or each other.

Most of these creative writing ideas are simple and open-ended. This allows your students total creative freedom to write from these *poetry prompts* in their own unique style, tone, and voice [1].

1. 7 Days, 7 Lines: Write a poem where each line/sentence is about each day of last week
2. Radio: Tune in to a radio station you don't normally listen to, and write a poem inspired by the first song or message you hear.
3. Instagram Wall: Open up either your own Instagram account or one of a friend/celebrity and write poetry based on the first picture you see.
4. How To: Write a poem on how to do something mundane most people take for granted, such as how to tie your shoes, how to turn on a lamp, how to pour a cup of coffee.
5. Last Words: Use the last sentence from the nearest book as the inspiration for the first line of your poem.
6. Listen Up: Write a poem telling someone they are better than they think they are.
7. Signs of the Times: How has a place you are familiar with changed over the past 10 years?
8. Movie Character: Think of a recent movie you watched, and create a poem about one character specifically, or an interaction between two characters that was memorable.

9. Political News: Many famous poets found inspiration from the current politics in their time. Open up a newspaper or news website, and create inspired by the first news article you find.
10. Home Planet: Imagine you are from another planet, stuck on earth and longing for home [3].
11. Look at an old photo. Write about everything not in the picture. Feel free to move to and from reality.
12. Describe a place you've never been to. Be as realistic as possible. The catch? It has to be a single word list.
13. What's the last dream you remember? Using colors and smells to describe it.
14. Finishing the sentence and continue the story... "When my head hits the pillow..."
15. In 13 words, describe your oasis [4].

Here is some other ideas for giving students with a higher level of English to work independently and create their own poems.

### **PERSONAL HISTORY**

Look up the year you were born on Wikipedia, and you'll find a long list of events. Choose a handful you find meaningful or interesting, even if you have to do a bit of research. Then, pick one to use as a jumping off point. You can take the fictional route and imagine being a participant or observer in the event, or a more literal one and imagine all the ways this historic event has affected (or not affected) your life.

### **ERASURE (AKA, THE BLACKOUT POEM)**

This exercise starts with a block of text, which can come from anywhere—the newspaper, a magazine, a book, the back of a cereal box. Use a pen to underline some of your favorite words in the block. Then use a marker, white out, or a pen to omit the words you don't love. Let the words left help you form your next poem.

### **MAKE METAPHORS (OR SIMILIES)**

If you're feeling stuck, don't worry about writing an entire poem at once. Whip out a notebook and just jot down some comparisons. Start by thumbing through a book of poems, or heading outside where you can observe nature, people, and traffic. Whatever metaphors or similies you find don't have to be groundbreaking—they don't even have to make sense! If you come back to your list another day, there's a good chance you'll find at least one of those thoughts inspirational.

### **SENSORY OBSERVATIONS**

If you feel your creative well is running dry, slow down and pay some extra attention to the world around you. With a notebook in hand, venture out and make five sensory observations for each of your five senses. For example, in a subway station, you might see white square tiles, strangers, empty chairs, a forgotten umbrella, and graffiti. It's easy to overlook the charming, interesting, or even haunting images that exist in your surroundings.

### **ALLITERATION LISTS**

Create a list of word pairs or phrases using alliteration (or assonance, if you prefer). The key to making this exercise work is to not overthink it. Even if a word doesn't fit perfectly within your alliteration or assonance rules, write it down. Let the sound of each word lead you to the next. You might be inspired mid-activity and just start writing, or you might need to sleep on it for a night and revisit your list with fresh eyes.

### **SYNONYM LISTS**

Much like alliteration lists, synonym lists are like a good stretch before a sprint. Start with one word, then write down as many synonyms as you can, even if they're not a perfect match. For example, the word bored could lead you to blasé, apathetic, disenchanted, jaded, lukewarm, world-weary, and so on. And don't be afraid to use a thesaurus! Each synonym presents various shades of meaning, and you might find yourself zeroing in on a particular mood through an uncommon synonym.

### **IMAGINE YOU'RE SOMEONE ELSE**

Whether it's King Henry the VII, Amy Winehouse, or your next door neighbor, try imagining what life is like in someone else's shoes. Not only is this a good practice of empathy, but it can help you what life is like in someone else's shoes. Not only is this a good practice of empathy, but it can help you get out of your own head. Try writing a poem from their perspective.

### **RECYCLE**

Dust off some old poems you maybe hid away in a shoebox, or a seventh-grade homework assignment your family once hung on the fridge. You may appreciate how far your writing has come, or be surprised at how your perspective has changed. Whether you find a few gems or key phrases in your work or have an encounter with an old memory, it can be inspiring to revisit the past.

Online teaching can provide a great opportunity for teachers to implement their teaching creative techniques. Usage of poetry and its creation by students provide a good basis for the development of students 'competence in language. Teaching poetry is a very rewarding experience when done correctly. Students love to write poetry and are amazed that a few well-chosen words are able to express their innermost feelings. When students are afraid to write poetry, it is often because they are unsure of how to proceed – there are no clear-cut answers about what is right and what is wrong. Helping students to enjoy poetry at the start is the key. Thus, teaching English through the poetry is one of the most creative and challenging way of acquiring language by students [5].

### **REFERENCES**

[1] Robertson K. Writing Poetry with English Language Learners Mode of access URL: <https://www.readingrockets.org/article/writing-poetry-english-language-learners->(accessed: 30.10.2020)

[2] Hannah Lee Kidder. How to Write a Poem: 8 Fundamentals for Writing Poetry That's Meaningful Mode of access URL: <https://self-publishingschool.com/how-to-write-a-poem/>-(accessed: 30.10.2020)

[3] 101 poetry prompts & ideas for writing poems Mode of access URL: <https://thinkwritten.com/poetry-prompts/>-(accessed: 30.10.2020)

[4] Writing poetry for beginners. Mode of access URL: <https://www.fromwhisperstoreroars.com/blog-1/2019/4/3/writing-poetry-for-beginners> /-(accessed: 30.10.2020)

[5] 8 poetry exercises to help your creativity flow. Mode of access URL: <https://www.readpoetry.com/8-poetry-exercises-to-help-your-creativity-flow/>-(accessed: 30.10.2020)

## ӨЛЕҢ ШЕТЕЛ ТІЛІН ҚАШЫҚТЫҚТАН ОҚЫТУ ТӘСІЛІ РЕТІНДЕ

Усербаева М.М.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>п.ғ.м., аға оқытушы

Абылай хан атындағы ҚазХҚ және ӘТУ,

Алматы, Қазақстан

e-mail:madina\_userbay@mail.ru

**Андатпа.** Бұл мақаланың мақсаты - студенттердің ағылшын тілі деңгейін көтеру үшін өлең жазу стратегиясын, поэзия түрлеріне шолу жасап, қашықтықтан оқыту барысында қолданатын тапсырмалар мен білім алушыларды ынталандыру жолдарын қарастыру. Ұсынып отырған тапсырмаларды шетел тілі әртүрлі деңгейдегі білім алушылар қолдануға болады және де тапсырмаларды тілді меңгеру деңгейіне байланысты өзгертіп тұруға мүмкіндік туындайды.

**Тірек сөздер:** поэзияны үйрету, поэтикалық көмекшілер, поэзия түрлері, ақындық жаттығулар, поэтикалық стратегиялар.

## СТИХИ КАК СПОСОБ ОБУЧЕНИЯ ИНОСТРАННОМУ ЯЗЫКУ ОНЛАЙН

Усербаева М.М.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>м.п.н., ст. преподаватель

КазУМОиМЯ им. Абылай хана,

Алматы, Казахстан

e-mail:madina\_userbay@mail.ru

**Аннотация.** Цель этой статьи - обсудить стратегии написания стихов для улучшения уровня английского языка студентов, представить обзор форм поэзии и задания, которые можно эффективно использовать при проведении уроков, и предложить некоторые идеи о том, как стимулировать учащихся для написания стихов в режиме онлайн. Эти задания можно использовать для учащихся с разным уровнем владения языком и изменять в зависимости от их уровня.

**Ключевые слова:** обучение поэзии, поэтические подсказки, формы поэзии, поэтические упражнения, поэтические стратегии.

Статья поступила 03.11.2020