Creative Writing

Day 5

August 31st

• Daily Description: Describe what it would be like to fly.

• Agenda:
  – Daily Description
  – Poetry I Love
  – Quatrain
  – Collecting and Using Lines
  – Partner Poems

Today’s Objectives

• I will be able to use my notebook to collect interesting lines.

• I will be able to use those lines to craft poems.

Poetry I Love

Four Lines

Yesterday we climbed stony mountain
The rocks on the trail were the color of trout
We talked about our lives and loneliness
On top, in the fog, we couldn’t see a thing.
- Do Fu (Chinese poet)

Four Lines

• Quatrain – a four line poem
• Solid – like a table top
• Three lines describing, one line a revelation
  – Can be a peaceful revelation or a disturbing one
• Can play with rhyme (or not)
## Quatrains by Gwendolyn Bennett

1. Brushes and paints are all I have
   To speak the music in my soul—
   While silently there laughs at me
   A copper jar beside a pale green bowl.

2. How strange that grass should sing—
   Grass is so still a thing...
   And strange the swift surprise of snow
   So soft it falls and slow.

## Line Game
- Choose three lines that you have written.
- Write one line on each slip of papery.
- Mingle!
- Pair up and come up with and interesting way to combine your line cards with your partners.

## 4 Lines
- Write a 4 line poem that sums up your view of the world

## Writing a Poem
- Look at the lines you’ve written today.
- Choose a few lines to work with to create a poem (or several poems).
- Focus on concrete details and interesting phrasing.

## Collecting and Repurposing Lines
- Look through your notebook and find lines that you really like.
- Write interesting lines on note cards.
- Write a poem using your own interesting lines.

## Partner Poem
- You will team up with a partner to write poetry
- The poems need to be about the word given and must be the correct number of lines
- You and your partner will alternate lines (e.g. one writes lines 1 & 3, the other 2 & 4)
### Partner Poems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Lines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cloudy</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoe</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Garbage Poems

- Each class member will come up with a rule for a poem (e.g. must be about the city you in which you were born)
- The class will vote on the 7 rules they want to use
- The poem MUST use EACH of the rules the class agreed upon

### Example:

- Rules:
  1. Include a gerbil
  2. Use 10 fillers (um, like, etc.)
  3. Mention a city in which you have never been
  4. Quote Dad
  5. Use Commercial Slogans
  6. No 1st Person
  7. Rhyme with orange
  8. Write from the bottom up

```
weekend.
takes me home for the hands when Al State like
like I know I'm in good zorriing unsanitary, but were...um what was it? Like
dad told me once that wood chips
He often said, "Um, like my make even a gerbil jealous.
had ever grown a tail that would his kindergarten class. No guinea pig
London was the pride and joy of

Living in Soil
```

### Notebook Check #1

- Look back through your creative writing notebook and highlight three activities or passages you'd like me to read closely.
- Reflection: Write a well developed paragraph in which you consider the following:
  - Why did you mark the passages you marked?
  - What are you most proud of or excited about in this class so far?
  - Has anything been challenging?