Creative Writing 1

Day 12
September 28th

• Bell Work: Describe drawing a picture.

• Agenda:
  – Daily Description
  – Odes
  – Haiku
  – Tanka
  – Poetweet
Today’s Objectives

• I will know the characteristics of Odes.

• I will be able to write my own ode.

• I will know several different types of short poems.

• I will be able to write my own short poems.
Ode

• The word ode comes from the Greek word aeidein ("to sing")

• An ode
  – Is a song or lyric poem that **addresses a thing or person not present**
  – Thrives on meter and rhyme and was originally intended to be performed

• The Irregular Ode:
  – An ode in which the distinct metrical and stanza regulations of traditional odes are discarded for more freedom
  – Pablo Neruda: Chilean poet that took the irregular ode one step further and wrote with high diction about everyday objects
From Ode to Aphrodite
Sappho (c. 630-570 B.C.)

Deathless Aphrodite, throned in flowers,
Daughter of Zeus, O terrible enchantress,
With this sorrow, with this anguish, break
my spirit
Lady, not longer!

Hear anew the voice! O hear and listen!
Come, as in that island dawn thou camest,
Billowing in thy yoked car to Sappho
Forth from thy father's

Golden house in pity! ... I remember:
Fleet and fair thy sparrows drew thee,
beating
Fast their wings above the dusky harvests,
Down the pale heavens,
Lightning anon! And thou, O blest
and brightest,
Smiling with immortal eyelids, asked
me:
"Maiden, what betideth thee? Or
wherefore
Callest upon me?

"What is here the longing more than
other,
Here in this mad heart? And who the
lovely
One beloved that wouldst lure to
loving?
Sappho, who wrongs thee?
From Ode to the Watermelon

The tree of intense summer,
hard,
is all blue sky,
yellow sun, fatigue in drops,
a sword
above the highways,
a scorched shoe
in the cities:
the brightness and the world weigh us down,
hit us
in the eyes
with clouds of dust,
with sudden golden blows,
they torture
our feet
with tiny thorns,
with hot stones,
and the mouth
Suffers
more than all the toes:
the throat
becomes thirsty,
the teeth,
the lips, the tongue:
we want to drink waterfalls,
the dark blue night,
the South Pole,
and then the coolest of all the planets crosses the sky,
the round, magnificent, star-filled watermelon.

It's a fruit from the thirst-tree.
It's the green whale of the summer.
Gary Dop – Ode to my Love Handles
Some Ode Ideas

- Shakespeare
- Edgar Allen Poe
- 2Pac
- Michael Jordan
- Tony Hawk
- M.C. Escher
- John Lennon
- A religious figure
- A passed relative/friend
- Stone gargoyle
- Snoopy
- Paper clip
- Aluminum can
- Graduation tassel
- Board game
- Loaf of bread
- Your hand
- Etc.
Write an Ode

• Pick an ordinary place or thing.
• Give your subject praise or thanks. *(Oh, ____________!)*
• Speak directly to the object.
• Use adjectives to describe it.
• Use verbs to bring that object to life. *(Personification)*
• Use repeated lines.
Haiku

• A poem recording the essence of a moment in which nature and human existence are linked
• Haiku poets write about common, everyday experiences involving natural objects
• Format: 3 lines, 5/7/5 syllables
Haiku Examples

The last winter leaves
Clinging to the black branches
Explode into birds.

Still cobalt ocean
Blackbacked gulls flitting on by
Menacing trawler

Morning sun awakes
River winding through my yard
Fragrance of the moon.
Haiku Hints

• Write what’s happening in the moment.
• Look for small details.
• Don’t explain – let your images do the talking.
• Try speaking to – not about – your subject.
• Let what’s surprising or funny come last.
Tanka

• Tanka comes from the Japanese for “short poem”
• Mood pieces usually about love, shortness of life, the seasons, or sadness
• 5 lines, 1st and 3rd are short / 2nd 4th and 5th are longer
• First two lines present one idea then shift to a related idea for the following three
Tanka Examples

On the white sand
Of the beach of a small isle
In the Eastern Sea
I, my face streaked with tears,
Am playing with a crab.
   – Ishikawa Takuboku[9]

“even now,
shy, why notice only
the springtime!”
as I, eyes closed
cling to his hand

Is the inlaid box
With a gilt hasp concealing
A letter, a jewel?
Within, a bunch of feathers,
The small bones of a bird.

• As with haiku, tanka can easily be ruined by too much sentimentality.
Write two haiku and one Tanka.
Poetweet

• Writing a poem in 140 characters
Twitter Poem
The poem creates a space.
It hides in a tent in a forest.
Making its own bed it falls asleep in the dark,
Wakes up under a lamp or the sun.
By Claudia Rankine

eath donates
break in a wave train
fallout active plume cloud spills
red reactors give
cross characters translated
in kanji could say much more
Write a poetweet
Don’t forget!

• Count your characters to make sure you don’t go over 140.
• Each space, letter, number, and punctuation mark counts as a character.
• On Twitter, you can use a backslash to indicate a new line. Each backslash will count as a character.