Found poem and Spoken Word poem assignment

Found poems

1. Pick a topic you are interested in.
2. Look up articles on the internet about the topic.
3. Write down 20 words/phrases that you feel are important/interesting/powerful/meaningful etc. that express how you feel about the topic
4. Take those words and put them in an order that makes sense to you
5. Add words/phrases or details that you feel enhances the poem
6. Take out words/phrases or details that you feel takes away from the poem
7. Create a good copy of the Found poem
8. Found poem assignment #1- Write a 20 line found poem on a topic of your choice
9. Found poem assignment #2- Write a 20 line found poem on the novel Monkey Beach

Spoken Word Poems

Spoken Word Poem assignment #1- Choose a poem that you like to create a spoken word performance of that poem. Put the words or lyrics on a word document. Then create a legend for saying the poem out loud and put those marks in your poem for performance purposes. You can also describe how you want things to be said using brackets after words.

***Ideas for what you can do to add to your performance and use in your legend***

Change tone of voice (positive/negative/condescending/bright, comforting, captivating, ethereal, feathery, hypnotic, lifting, mesmerizing, musical, provocative, regal, rich, romantic, sensuous, sexy, smoky, soothing, sweet, bossy, croaky, dry, edgy, forceful, growly, grating, hateful, insincere, overbearing, nasally, sarcastic, snarky, sullen, unapologetic, wavering, whiny, know-it-all, patronizing, smug, snobby, snooty, disdainful, arrogant, authoritative, caring, cheery, casual, enthusiastic, firm, formal, frank, friendly, hesitant, humorous, nostalgic, playful, professional, respectful, serious, sympathetic, trustworthy, upbeat, witty

Change vocal depth and quality- breaking, brittle, coarse, flat, gravelly, gruff, high pitched, hoarse, husky, mellow, monotone, raspy, rough, scratchy, squeaky, strong, trembling

Volume of voice- loud, quiet, blood curdling, boisterous, booming, caterwauling, screeching, faint, feeble, frail, lowered, penetrating, piercing, raucous, raised, shrill, soft-spoken weak, whisper

Add an emotion-joy, surprise, love, fear, anger, sadness, excited, optimistic, proud, cheerful, happy, content, peaceful, moved, overcome, amazed, confused, stunned, gloomy, lonely, shameful, disappointed, unhappy, hurt, disgusted, jealous, irritable, exasperated, enraged, horrified, nervous, insecure, terrified, scared, grateful, sentimental, affectionate, romantic, enchanted,

Add a pause for effect, stretch a word out longer or put emphasis on specific word

Add pictures be specific- this is to create an image in the audience’s mind

Add music-be specific- this is to create a mood in the audience

Add sound effects—be specific- what type- how long etc.

Talk faster or slower- indicate which words

Rap or Sing a word or line

Use facial expressions and body language -while performing- be specific about what type of expression, body language or gestures

Spoken Word Poem Example

The Road Not Taken

BY ROBERT FROST

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  2 And sorry I could not travel both  3 And be one traveler, long I stood  4 And looked down one as far as I could  5 To where it bent in the undergrowth;  6 Then took the other, as just as fair,  7 And having perhaps the better claim,  8 Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  9 Though as for that the passing there  10 Had worn them really about the same,  11 And both that morning equally lay  12 In leaves no step had trodden black.  13 Oh, I kept the first for another day!  14 Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  15 I doubted if I should ever come back.  16 I shall be telling this with a sigh  17 Somewhere ages and ages hence:  18 Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  19 I took the one less traveled by,  20 And that has made all the difference. | 1 Hold up 2 fingers on word Two. Spread hands apart on word diverged.  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10  11  12  13  14  15  16  17  18  19  20 |