

Writing Assignment 1: Poem

Content

- Write a poem of any length and in any form you wish: formal, blank, or free verse. Make appropriate use of all the concepts we have discussed so far. Above all, show, don't tell.
- You will be graded on your ability to work with at least four of the following poetic skills: rhythm and meter; figurative language; imagery and abstraction; concrete significant details; poetic action; and voice, persona, and point of view.
- While you do not need to write scansion marks on the poem you hand in, you are advised to consult the different kinds of meter discussed in your textbook's appendix, choose metrical feet that are appropriate to your purpose, and use a dictionary to check the scansion of your poem as you compose it.
- While you do not need to formally address prosody for this assignment, read your poem aloud before you hand it in. Does its rhythm and meter sound correct to you? You will be reading your poem aloud to the class when you hand it in, so consider how it sounds.

Format

- Your poem may be as short or as long as you wish; however, it must be long enough to demonstrate your ability to work with at least four of the skills we have discussed. If you write a haiku, for example, you are asking a lot of three little lines.
- You must type your poem in Times 12 font. Do not italicize your poem.
- Double space your poem, numbering pages if there are more than one
- Put your name and a title for your poem in the upper right hand corner of your page. You may also choose to write an untitled poem.

Conferences and Due Dates

- Optional individual conference to discuss your poem with your professor will be held during our class period on Tuesday, Feb. 7 and Thursday, Feb 9; if you wish to see your professor for a conference, stop by his office in Fine Arts 126 either during your class period or during his office hours.
- **The poem is due in class and on turnitin on Tuesday, Feb. 14.**
- You must both submit your poem to turnitin.com and bring a printed copy to class.
- Come to class on Feb. 14 prepared to read your poem aloud to your fellow students.