

Haiku Poetry

Developed for Poetry Out Loud 2022/23

Name of Lesson: Haiku Poetry

Standards Addressed: W.9-10.2.d-e; W.11-12.2d-e; W.9-10.3; W.11-12.3;
W.9-10.4; W.11-12.4; SL.9-10.4; SL.11-12.4; SL.9-10.6; SL.11-12.6

Lesson Focus: For this lesson the scholar will be writing a Haiku Poem about school.

Learning Objectives: The purpose of this lesson is for students to have fun. Haikus can be written for just about anything. There are haikus for humor, to raise social awareness, to evoke emotions, or to reminisce on the past. The idea of compression, though, remains the same. Haikus are a microcosm of a larger idea or feeling.

Materials Needed:

Pencil
Paper

Activity:

How to write a Haiku

1. There are only three lines, totaling 17 syllables.
2. The first line is 5 syllables.
3. The second line is 7 syllables.
4. The third line is 5 syllables like the first.
5. Punctuation and capitalization are up to the poet, and need not follow the rigid rules used in structuring sentences.
6. A haiku does not have to rhyme, in fact usually it does not rhyme at all.
7. It can include the repetition of words or sounds

Tips

Be descriptive in your writing to where you are painting a picture for listeners to see.

Example

Here are three examples of haiku poems from Yosa Buson (1716-1784), a haiku master poet and painter:

A summer river being crossed

how pleasing

with sandals in my hands!

Light of the moon

Moves west, flowers' shadows

Creep eastward.

In the moonlight,

The color and scent of the wisteria

Seems far away.