

Five forms in one afternoon

Teachers of Years 7 to 10

Five short poetry forms, each with a short guide and a prompt. Print the pages and set them out for one lesson.

GUIDE

Acrostic

Write a word down the left side of the page. Each line begins with one of its letters, in order. Each line should make sense on its own.

PROMPT

Acrostic prompt

Choose a word that matters to you this week. Build one line from each of its letters.

GUIDE

Renga stanza

The opening stanza has three lines of about five, seven and five syllables. Each answering stanza has two lines of seven syllables. Each stanza answers only the one before it.

PROMPT

Answer prompt

Read a short poem you know. Write two lines that answer its last line, rather than its subject.

GUIDE

Found poem

Take a page of any printed text. Cross out words until what remains is a poem. Keep the surviving words in their original order.

PROMPT

Found poem prompt

Pick one page from a book near you. Cross out until six lines are left.