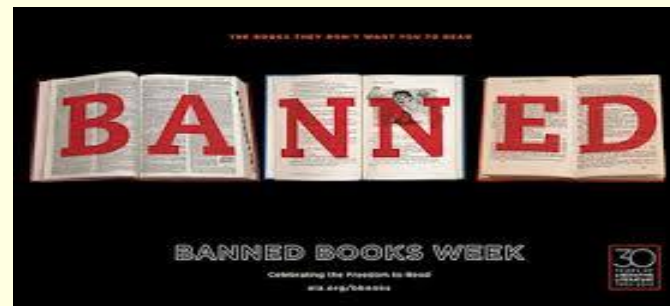
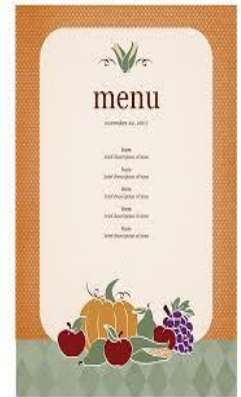


Found Poetry



What is *found poetry*?

■ According to the website, “Ask Jeeves for Kids,” it is “a composition made by combining fragments of such printed material as newspapers, signs, or menus, and rearranging them into the form of a poem.”



HOW TO....

- A found poem is when you take little parts of a piece of reading;
- Select the author's words that you really like centered around an idea;
- Combine them to make something new!



Things to remember when you're writing any poem...



- **Poems are the shortest form of storytelling that you can possibly think of, so....**
 - They don't need to be complete sentences, so don't waste your time with boring words.
 - **THEY DON'T NEED TO RHYME!** Seriously. They really don't.
 - Rules of grammar (like those pesky capitalization rules) don't apply. Don't tell your short story because it might get jealous 😊

To write a found poem..



- 1. **Select the printed material** that you would like to do a found poem about.
- 2. **Pick a focus.** You can focus on a feeling or idea that is present in what you read.
- 3. **Read the text again.** As you read it, **underline details, examples and phrases** (no longer than ten words) that you think are really powerful and support your focus.
- 4. **Write these down** on a separate sheet of paper.

And then...



5. Look over your words and phrases. **Get rid of boring lines, words or descriptions** that you think don't fit so well anymore.

6. Now it's time to **play with these words!**

You can....

- Mix up the order of the words and phrases
- Get rid of words you don't need
- Change the way the lines are spaced out or broken up— it's okay to squish words together or just leave one word on a line with poetry!

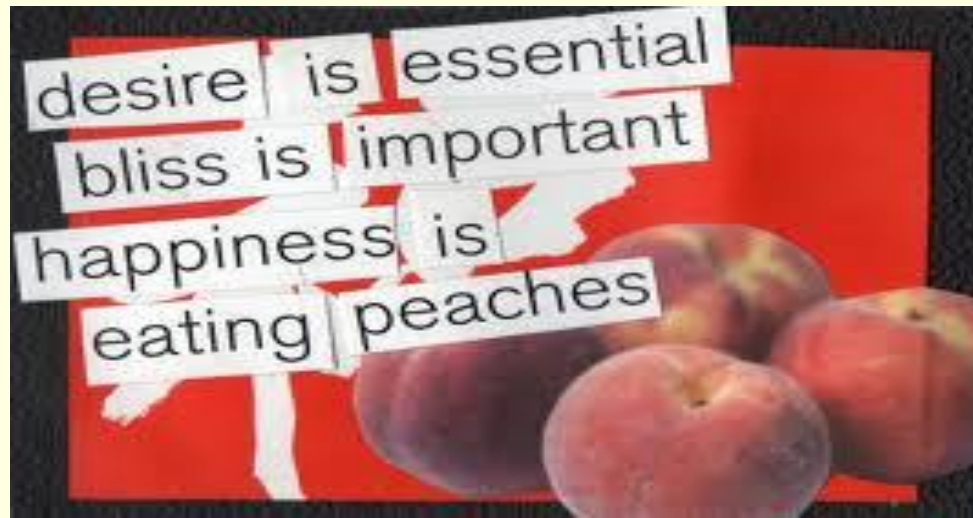
Last thing...



7. **Read it aloud to make sure it sounds good**, pausing where you start a new line.

8. Make sure to **explain where the words from** your poem came from at the bottom of the page.

You need to say where you got it from and who wrote it, so you **don't get in trouble for plagiarism.**



Here's an example---selections from Chang-rae Lee's "Coming Home, Again"

From that day, my mother prepared a certain meal to welcome me home. It was always the same. Even as I rode the school's shuttle bus from Exeter to Logan airport, I could already see the exact arrangement of my mother's table.

I knew that we would eat in the kitchen, the table brimming with plates. There was the *kalbi*, of course, broiled or grilled depending on the season. Leaf lettuce, to wrap the meat with. Bowls of garlicky clam broth with miso and tofu and fresh spinach. Shavings of cod dusted in flour and then dipped in egg wash and fried. Glass noodles with onions and shiitake. Scallion-and-hot-pepper pancakes. Chilled steamed shrimp. Seasoned salads of bean sprouts, spinach, and white radish. Crispy squares of seaweed. Steamed rice with barley and red beans. Homemade kimchi. It was all there—the old flavors I knew, the beautiful salt, the sweet, the excellent taste. (p. 5)

“Coming Home, Again” (Cont.)

I wish I had paid more attention. After her death, when my father and I were the only ones left in the house, drifting through the rooms like ghosts, I sometimes tried to make that meal for him. Though it was too much for two, I made each dish anyway, taking as much care as I could. But nothing turned out quite right—not the color, not the smell. At the table, neither of us said much of anything. And we had to eat the food for days. (p. 6)

You can find the full essay at

http://readwritethink.org/lesson_images/lesson998/ComingHomeAgain.pdf

The found poem based on that text...

Found Poem

My mother prepared
A certain meal
To welcome me home.
We would eat in the
kitchen
Table brimming
Kalbi, leaf lettuce to
wrap the meat
Garlicky clam broth with
miso and tofu and
fresh spinach



Shavings of cod
Scallion and pepper
pancakes
Chilled steamed
shrimp
Steamed rice.
The old flavors I knew
Beautiful, salt, sweet,
excellent.
I wish I had paid more
attention.

***Text is from Chang-
rae Lee's "Coming
Home, Again"***

Another example---

- Taken from “Eleven” by Sandra Cisneros

Sweater

ugly red sweater
raggedy and old
plastic buttons
all stretched out
like a jump rope

A thousand years old
all itchy and full of germs
smells like cottage cheese

“That's not, I don't , you're not...Not mine”



Taken from: © 2007 www.pinkgorillas.com

Your Assignment:

- Create a "found poem" based upon the collection of words and phrases you will find on any of these web pages readings.
- Follow the steps above.
- **Your focus is---**
- ***The Concentration Camps***
- [TIMELINE - The Ghettos \(1939-1941\)](http://fcit.coedu.usf.edu/holocaust/timeline/ghettos.htm)
- **URL:**
<http://fcit.coedu.usf.edu/holocaust/timeline/ghettos.htm>
- [Holocaust Timeline: The Camps](http://fcit.coedu.usf.edu/holocaust/timeline/camps.htm)
- **URL:**
<http://fcit.coedu.usf.edu/holocaust/timeline/camps.htm>
- [PEOPLE - Victims](http://fcit.coedu.usf.edu/holocaust/people/victims.htm)
- **URL:**
<http://fcit.coedu.usf.edu/holocaust/people/victims.htm>
- [FATHER JACQUES](http://www.ushmm.org/bunel/bunel.htm)
- **URL**
<http://www.ushmm.org/bunel/bunel.htm>

Example---Found Poem with a graphic included

Darkness

Death nestled in the darkness
shivers of pain
packed like sardines in a can
all bruised & bloody
their eyes filled with tears
their arms, their bodies, their dreams lay in the darkness
hope falling like rain from the sky
THEY PRAYED



Due: Friday, October 24th

- Be sure to include:
- a **graphic**
- a **title**
- a **Work Cited** (the web cites where your words came from...)
- **Graphic**-(5 points)
- **Title**- (5 points)
- **Found Poem**-(20 points)
- **Works Cited in MLA (on back)**- (10 points)
- **Total possible**-(40 points)
- **Enjoy! Be creative!**

Poetry is when an
emotion has found its
thought and the thought
has found words.



Robert Frost
American poet
(1874-1963)

QuoteHD.com