

This is the worksheet set for Teacher Amy's class.

Exercise 1: Think of poetic terms.

Use this table of definitions to help you if you want.

Name of term	Definition
	Giving something non-human human attributes
	Using 'as' or 'like' to form a comparison and add meaning
	Using a word or phrase for something in a way that cannot be literally applied, or something that is a symbol for something else
	Words that sound the same, often used at the end of lines
	The rhythmic structure of verse
	Human or animal traits applied to something non-human, OR animal traits applied to a human
	Words that begin with the same letter or sound
	A word that sounds like what it refers to
	A form of poetry that does not consistently use rhythm or rhyme
	The repetition of vowel sounds without repeating consonants
	Repetition of 's' sounds
	A chunk/paragraph of a poem

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Exercise 2: Read the poem in as many different ways as you can, with different emphasis.

Crossing the Water by Silvia Plath

Black lake, black boat, two black, cut-paper people.
Where do the black trees go that drink here?
Their shadows must cover Canada.

A little light is filtering from the water flowers.
Their leaves do not wish us to hurry:
They are round and flat and full of dark advice.

Cold worlds shake from the oar.
The spirit of blackness is in us, it is in the fishes.
A snag is lifting a valedictory, pale hand;

Stars open among the lilies.
Are you not blinded by such expressionless sirens?
This is the silence of astounded souls.

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Exercise 3: Use your senses to describe an emotional event.

Sight:

Sound:

Smell:

Touch:

Taste:

Challenge: Use poetic language (refer to your poetic terms) to create images from your observations.

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Exercise 4: Make your own image

1. Choose something you can see or hear in your room (or smell, taste, touch but those are harder)
2. Think about how you are feeling right now
3. Try to describe the sensory detail using figurative language
4. Add some detail that does not necessarily make sense but reflects your feelings
5. Play with the language until you have something you like
6. Edit it into a concise image

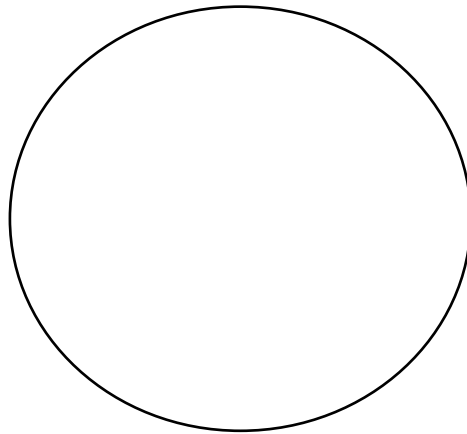
Do your best but remember not to worry. This is not about suddenly being an amazing poet. This is just an exercise for you to understand how poets think so you can better understand what they have written.

Also, even the best poets took years of practice!

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Exercise 5: Brainstorm circle.

Write an image from the poem in the middle of the circle. Write what it makes you think of or feel, and what those things then make you think or feel.



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Exercise 6: Metaphor, simile, personification, or anthropomorphism understanding diagram

Part 1 of comparison (main part)	What they have in common	Part 2 of comparison (additional meaning)

Notes:

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