



Poetry Selection

- Poems you really like
- Poems of interest
 - Contemporary
 - Brevity
 - Incident/narrative poetry
 - Concrete/accessible language
 - Humor/wit
- Student anthologies/portfolios



Poetry Anthologies for Adolescents

- Paul Janeczko,
 - *Don't Forget to Fly, Going Over to Your Place, Looking for Your Name, Strings, Pocket Poems*
- Richard Peck
 - *Mindscales, Sounds and Silences, Pictures that Storm Inside My Head*
- Steve Dunning
 - *Some Haystacks Don't Even Have Any Needle*
- Lueders and St. John
 - *Zero Make Me Hungry*



Popular Poets

- Langston Hughes, Nikki Giovanni, David Ignatow, Theodore Roethke, David Wagoner, Denise Levertov, Linda Pastan, A. R. Ammons, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Donald Justice, Phillip Levine, James Wright, Anne Sexton, Sandra Cisneros, X. J. Kennedy, Rita Dove, Sylvia Plath, Ted Kooser, Paul Zimmer, Gary Soto



Studying Individual Poets

- Biographical background
- Students create own anthologies
 - Use of Web: Favorite Poet site
- Noting consistent patterns/themes
- James Wright
 - Final lines: descriptions of movement/explosion
 - Images of light/death



Meshing Reading and Writing

- Reading from the perspective of a writer
 - Noting techniques
 - Unusual word choices
 - Uses of white space/pauses
- Writing and revision
 - Revising interpretations as a reader
 - “Movement across the fulcrum” (Ciardi)
 - Revise one’s perspective after the twist at the end



Response to Poetry

- Think-alouds in pairs
 - Focus on expression, specifics/ re-reading/revision of interpretations
- Visual/art work/sounds associations evoked
 - Slides, pictures, hypermedia, music
- Oral interpretation
 - Audio/video tape production
 - Conveying their meaning through performance
 - Practice on pausing, emphasis, sounds, voices



Response to Poetry

- Engaging:
 - Defining emotional reactions
 - Noting feelings/emotions evoked
 - Defining process of revising interpretations
- Describing events/story behind the poem
- Considering the title as symbolic
 - Remove the title and add it back later



Response to Poetry

- Identifying speakers' perspectives/stance
 - Speaker's role/attitudes/relationships to others
 - Considering relationships between speaker and the poet (if known)
- Contextualizing the social/cultural worlds
- Noting unusual, unique uses of language
 - Reading as a writer--connect to writing poetry
- Entertaining conflicting interpretations
 - Celebrate idea of alternative meanings



Response to Poetry

- Noting binary oppositions/categories
 - Listing oppositions
 - Inferring thematic meaning of oppositions
- Identifying words with multiple/ambiguous meanings
- Rewriting poems (Pope: example of “Duchess” poem)
 - Adopting different perspectives
 - Filling in gaps
 - Creating alternative endings/versions
 - Adopting different voices/discourses



Dialogic Response to Poetry

- **“Dialogic” (Bakhtin): multiple, competing voices, perspectives, and discourses**
- **Writing about the experience of tensions and conflicts between different voices, perspectives, and discourses**
- **How voices reflect different attitudes and stances, past and present**



Intertextual/intercontextual Connections

- **“Addressivity”**: evoking potential audiences in formulating response
- **“Double-voice”** mimicry/parody of different voices or **“heteroglossia”** evoking links to multiple discourses
- **Hypertextual/intermedial links** as a mode of writing of and about literature



Figurative Language

- Cliché Similes
 - Miller: The Champagne of Bottle Beers
 - Breakfast without orange juice is like a day without sunshine.
- Cliché Metaphors
 - Sherwin-Williams covers the earth



Performing Poetry

- *Poetry Out Loud* (anthology)
- Oral interpretation
 - Alternative readings of same poem
 - Stereo/quadrophonic performances
 - Duo/choral groups
- Poetry slams
 - Ground rules: time, originality, audience judges



Oral Interpretation

- Model process
 - PBS Poets Read: on-line performance
- Re-read poem for language, pace, pauses, rhythm
- Make notes/marks for emphasis
- Note flows from one line to next
- Read slowly with pauses



Performing Poetry

- Choral/group readings/chantsm
- Line reading
 - Different students read different lines/parts
- Readers' theater: group performance
- Mime/creative drama
- Poetry/music audios/videos



Writing Poetry

- Freewriting/looping
 - Pulling out key words/images and doing more freewriting/repeat process
- Parodies of poems
- “Found poems”
 - Ads, newspaper stories, flyers, letters, web sites
- Combined poems
 - Clips from lots of different short poems



Writing Poetry

- Kenneth Koch: poetry ideas
 - Write another poem based on a poem's idea or theme
- Magnetic Poetry Kit
- List poems
- Where I came from poems (Christensen)
- Haiku
- Cinquain



Writing Poetry

- Concrete/Visual shape poems
- Sonnets/ballads
- Lyrics
- Rap
 - The Romeo and Juliet RAP (Jacobs, 1991)
 - *Say It Loud!: The Story of Rap Music* (Jones)
 - *Rap: The Lyrics* (Stanley)