

## English Honors Major Poetry Portfolio (30%)

**Task:** You will brainstorm and write a collection of **15** poems all connected to a **theme of your choice** that is used in some way and touched upon throughout all 15 of your poems. Don't be restricted by your theme, but rather be creative, imaginative and thoughtful. You must use these types of poems for your first 10 poems (Organizers & Student examples in this packet):

- I AM POEM
- SOMEDAY POEM
- ONE WINDOW IS ALL I NEED POEM
- HAIKU POEM
- CONCRETE POEM
- CINQUAIN POEM
- ODE POEM
- FOUND POEM
- FREE-VERSE POEM
- SONNET POEM
- 5 ADDITIONAL POEMS (ANY TYPE)

**Additional 5 Poems:** The additional 5 poems can be any type of poem. You can repeat the same type only once. For example, you can only do 1 additional free-verse poem, 1 additional haiku, etc. Not all 5 free-verse poems. Put your poems in the same order found in this packet:

**Drafting:** Read the types of poems & examples. Pick your theme (Pg. 2). Write drafts of your poems. Add titles to your poems. Be sure to put the type of poem at the top of each poem.

**Editing:** Edit poems. Add poetry terms & check poetry resources (Pg. 3)

**Publishing:** Make polished poems! (You may be given time to type up your poems)

**Requirements** (Put portfolio in this order):

- o **Cover page on blank white paper** (Include: Name & period, Theme, Creative visual)
- o **Table of Contents** (New page w/poem type & title w/ pg. #s in order)
- o **15 of your best poems** (Polished theme related poems & use of poetry terms)
- o **Reflection page** (Last page: Reflect on your poetry by answering the 6 questions)
- o **Do not use poems from another class, person or internet. This will earn you a zero.**

**Assessment:** This is a major grade (30%). You will be assessed on:

**Cover, Table of Contents, Overall quality of poems, Poetry terms & Reflection**

**Due dates:**

**Due Thurs, 5/21:** Drafts of Poems 1-5

**Due Thurs, 5/28:** Drafts of Poems 6-10

**Due Thurs, 6/4:** Drafts of Poems 11-15, Cover ideas, Draft Table of Contents & Reflection

**Week of 6/8:** Library Computer Lab to type - Bring all of the above

### Poetry Portfolio Themes

**Directions:** Look over the list of poetry themes & brainstorm some of your own theme ideas in the box below. Then, narrow it down to your top choice. If you choose your own theme, make sure you get approval from The Fascinator.

- A Dancer's World
- A Fairy Tale Experience
- Who Am I?
- Choices and Consequences
- The Supernatural
- Technology versus Nature
- The Views of War
- The Deep Ocean
- The Canvas of an Artist
- Uncertainties in life
- A Life Lost too Soon
- Past, Present and Future Self
- Good Versus Evil
- Moments in Time
- The Spirit of an Athlete
- Fire and Ice
- Beneath the Mask
- Day and Night
- Behind the Stage
- A Passion for Music
- Through a Child's Eye
- A Journey of...

OWN THEME IDEAS:

TOP 2 THEME CHOICES:

TOP THEME CHOICE:

*Poetry is a story  
that is so good,  
it doesn't need  
complete sentences.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

**Poetry Terms:** Add some to each poem to enhance your poetry writing!

**Alliteration:** Common in poetry. This is the repetition of an initial sound (1<sup>st</sup> letter) in two or more words of a phrase, line, or sentence. Example: Fusco's Focused Friday

**Hyperbole:** A figure of speech - an exaggeration or overstatement.

**Imagery:** This is used to describe the words or phrases which bring forth a certain picture or image in the mind of the reader. Imagery appeals to the senses - what can be seen, heard, felt, etc.

**Metaphor:** A comparison between two seemingly unrelated subjects without using "like" or "as." (Love is a walk in the rain at night, Stars were diamonds in the sky)

**Mood:** The feeling or atmosphere the writer creates for the reader.

**Onomatopoeia:** Words that sound like what they mean. For example, buzz, snap and boom.

**Oxymoron:** A combination of contradictory terms (cruel kindness, love hate)

**Personification:** A figure of speech in which human qualities are assigned to non-human things, or life is given to inanimate objects.

**Repetition:** The repeating of a word or phrase to create a rhythm or make a point.

**Simile:** A comparison between two seemingly unrelated objects using the words "like" or "as". (Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get)

**Symbol:** Something concrete, like an object, person, place or action that stands for something more abstract, like an idea, a feeling, or emotion.



**Poetry Resources:** [www.shadowpoetry.com](http://www.shadowpoetry.com) & [www.rhymezone.com](http://www.rhymezone.com)

## Types of Poems (10) followed by a student example:

### #1: I Am Poem (Make it fit your theme. Be creative! Don't be obvious ☺)

I am (two special characteristics you have)  
I wonder (something you are curious about)  
I hear (an imaginary sound)  
I see (an imaginary sight)  
I want (an actual desire)  
I am (the first line of the poem is repeated)

I pretend (something you really pretend to do)  
I feel (a feeling about something imaginary)  
I touch (something you imagine you touch)  
I worry (a worry that is real to you)  
I cry (something that makes you very sad)  
I am (the first line of the poem is repeated)

I understand (something you know is true)  
I say (something you believe in)  
I dream (a dream you actually have)  
I try (something you make an effort to do)  
I hope (something you really hope for)  
I am (the first line of the poem is repeated)

### Student Example:

I am the beginning of the day and the beginning of the end of the night.  
I wonder when people will start taking me seriously.  
I hear fire trucks, ambulances, and police cars in the distance.  
I see people scattered on the streets of everywhere.  
I want people to know that I'm the beginning of everything.  
I am the beginning of the day, and the beginning of the end of the night.

I pretend that I control planet earth, even though it only goes around me.  
I feel the coldness of other planets, and the feeling of thoughts of mammals.  
I touch the distance between the sidewalks and the clouds.  
I worry that no one realizes my existence.  
I cry rays of light and heat.  
I am the beginning of the day, and the beginning of end of the night.

I understand people don't find me important.  
I say that I'm the start of things because; when I rise you do too.  
I dream of the day when people thank me for all that I've done.  
I try to stay on the same schedule as always.  
I hope that you consider me the start of something new.  
I am the beginning of the day, and the beginning of end of the night.

## #2: Someday Poem:

This poem should be at least 10 lines in length with each line beginning with the word *Someday*.

### Student Example:

Someday...  
Someday I hope I'll reunite with my loved ones  
Someday I'll sleep with no worries  
Someday I hope I'll walk through my home town streets again  
Someday it will all be over  
Someday they will come to an end  
Someday there will be no threat  
Someday the air will be clean  
Someday there will be no need for protection  
Someday we will all sleep safely  
Someday we will all be able rely on everyone, not just allies  
Someday...

## #3: One Window Is All I Need Poem:

This poem should be at least 10 lines in length. Begin your poem with the line *One window is all I need*. Continue to write about this imaginary window in a personal way.

### Student Example:

One window is all I need...  
To watch the sunset  
For the butterfly to beat it's wings  
To watch the grass grow  
To feel the mist of the waterfall  
To watch the leaves age  
For the beautiful flowers to blossom  
To find the end if the rainbow  
To run in a shimmering field of gold  
For a connection to my beautiful surroundings  
One window is all I need.

## #4: Haiku

Haiku is an unrhymed Japanese verse consisting of three unrhymed lines of five, seven, and five syllables (5, 7, 5). Haiku is usually written in the present tense and often focuses on nature (seasons), feelings and/or experiences.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Example:**

Crowded but lonely  
Master of horrible death  
Blindly takes your life

**#5: Concrete Poem**

Poetry can take on many formats, but one of the most inventive forms is for the poem to take on the shape of its subject.

**Student Example:**

A key to the  
Unknown opens to a  
world no one's ever entered  
before. As you cross you do not  
know what is to become of you.  
Suddenly, it becomes dark.  
Your heart races like  
the harsh wind  
in the air.  
The tall  
Trees  
Swish  
With  
Anger!  
The skies are  
Talking to you.  
Silent screams make you  
Chill with fear.  
The sea roars furiously,  
Draws you closer  
to pull you in.

### #6: Cinquain Poem

This poem is a 5 line poem, usually unrhymed, with 2 syllables in the first line, 4 in the second, 6 in the third, 8 in the fourth line, and 2 in the last line.

#### **Student Example:**

Alone

Quiet, Blissful

Focus, Practice, Relax

Mortal constrictions are unbound

Peaceful

### #7: Ode Poem

This poem should be at least 10 lines in length. An Ode is a poem praising and glorifying a person, place or thing.

#### **Student Example:**

Oh the sea!

Whose wave's crash hard

But yet so gently

Whose colors are different

Just as peoples are

The sea is a home

A getaway, a view,

A memory, a dream,

A movie, an experience

In which we all should

Treasure like a jewel

Until the next time we see the

Beautiful waves crashing once

More

## #8 Found Poem

A found poem takes existing text/words, rearranges them and presents them as poems. You cannot use any of your own word, but rather use only words you find. Found poetry is often made from words “found” in newspapers, street signs, graffiti, speeches, letters, books, or even other poems. Decisions of form, such as where to break a line, are left up to you, the poet. Be sure to cite where you “found” your information. Play around with the organization/order of the words you find. Limit the words you find to 3-5 sources. This poem must be at least 10 lines in length.

### Student Example:

From the novels: The Son of Neptune and The Serpent’s Shadow by Rick Riordan

*Confused*

*Life force ebbing*

*Brain fuzz lingering*

*Ride away*

*Along the way*

*Claim him*

*The world is at risk*

*Killing monsters*

*Threatening to destroy*

*Chaotic*

*The world will become*

*Divided*

*Order is disappearing*

*Follow the path to conclusion*

## #9: Free Verse Poem

This poem should be at least 10 lines in length (My rule). This is the most “free” of all poetry in terms of rules. Free Verse is an irregular form of poetry in which it is free of traditional rules such as rhyme. In moving from line to line, the poet’s main consideration is where to insert line breaks. Some ways of doing this include breaking the line where there is a natural pause or at a point of suspense for the reader.

### Student Example:

**The light**

**At first sitting**

**So silently in the background,**

**Makes its way out.**

**Night is in the open,**

**Ready to pounce**

**And attack.**

**The two contrast.**

**After circling each other like**

**Worthy opponents,**

**The fight begins.**

Everything is illuminated,  
Heaved,  
And thrown around,  
Like the rolling waves of the ocean  
Crashing against the shore on a stormy night.  
Finally, it stops.

What used to be a gloomy passage way  
Finds a peek of light.  
You reach, and reach...

The brightness surrounds you like a forest fire,  
Knocking some sense into you as its force pushes you back.  
You are blinded by clarity  
While the taste of intensity settles in your mouth.

It's abrupt  
And tangy  
And feels like its coiling around your tongue  
Like a snake attacking its prey.

You have hid in the darkness for so long  
And now you have been embraced.  
Emerge  
With light guiding the way  
To  
Hope.

### #10: Sonnet

A Sonnet is a poem consisting of 14 lines, each containing 10 syllables. See the organizer on the next page to assist you! Follow it carefully. One of the most famous of all Sonnets is Shakespeare's Sonnet 18:

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?  
Thou art more lovely and more temperate:  
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,  
And summer's lease hath all too short a date:  
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,  
And often is his gold complexion dimm'd;  
And every fair from fair sometime declines,  
By chance or nature's changing course untrimm'd;  
But thy eternal summer shall not fade  
Nor lose possession of that fair thou owest;  
Nor shall Death brag thou wander'st in his shade,  
When in eternal lines to time thou growest:  
So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,  
So long lives this and this gives life to thee.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

10 syllables each line	My Line	Rhyme Scheme
		A
		B
		A
		B

10 syllables each line	My Line	Rhyme Scheme
		C
		D
		C
		D

10 syllables each line	My Line	Rhyme Scheme
		E
		F
		E
		F

10 syllables each line	My Line	Rhyme Scheme
		G
		G

**Reflection:** Answer these 6 questions as the last page of your Poetry Portfolio. Be sure to # them.

1. Define poetry. What does it mean to you?
2. What is your theme and why did you choose it?
3. What is the importance of the visual you chose for your cover page? Explain.
4. Name the favorite poem you wrote. Explain.
5. Name your least favorite poem you wrote. Explain.
6. What grade would you score your Poetry Portfolio Project? Explain. (Out of 20 points)

*Fusco, 2015*