



Five-Line Poem

The Task

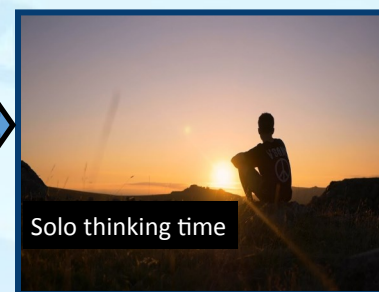
Create a five line group poem.

How?

- Create five questions that can be answered with one-word - about nature or the environment or personal experiences, thoughts or feelings during lockdown for example.
- Write all five questions on a piece of paper/card with space for one-word answers - one per person.
- Hand out the question papers to participants, direct them to individual quiet places to consider their responses.
- Give them plenty of time to think about and write down their one-word answers.
- Bring the group back together and ask them to tell you their answers to each question.
- Write up their answers verbatim to create a five line poem for the group.
- Read aloud with enthusiasm or ask a group member to do this to share the poem with others.

Considerations

- Try to make the questions thought provoking questions, this could be based around personal experience of lock down, likes and dislikes, thoughts of returning to school, things you miss about school etc. The topics are endless.
- Groups of up to 12 people create the best poems.



What will you need?

Paper/Card per pupil.

Pencil per pupil.

Whiteboard / Flipchart.

Five questions.

Space for pupils to think.



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Organisation & Layout

- Large enough space for pupils to spread out; playground, park, fields, sports hall.
- With larger classes split them into groups of 10-12.
- Brief whole class together - send individuals away to think of answers then return on your signal.
- A whistle or similar is useful to signal their return.
- Hoops or crates can be used to identify thinking places.

Learning Objectives

- To boost confidence, self awareness, independence, creative thinking.
- Literacy.
- A quintain (also known as a quintet) is any poetic form or stanza that contains five lines.
- Quintain poems can contain any line length or meter, the most common being a limerick.

Safety Information

- Make sure to set obvious boundaries.
- Make sure they stay where you can see them.
- Make sure they know when to return.
- They must not talk during thinking time.
- Must be only ONE-WORD answers.
- Don't let the paper blow away or get too wet.

Review & Assessment

- Share your poems by photos on social media or by typing up and printing for pupils to keep.
- Compare and contrast poems with other groups from the same class or others.
- This can be a great opportunity for the participants to openly discuss feelings and thoughts with the facilitator.
- Try posing more open questions to the group to get everyone involved.



Additional Links & Support

- [Blairvadach Five Line Poem—YouTube](#)
- [What makes a poem a poem? - YouTube](#)