

Assignment – Poetry Cycle

Due: Friday, October 30th by 5 pm

Grade: 20 points or roughly 4% of your final grade

Purpose:

1. For you to understand the power of words to convey meaning
2. For you to discover what style of poetry speaks to you
3. For you to use poetry as a means of discovery

What:

- Write five poems that speak to a single question
- Put the poems in an order that will have the greatest impact on the reader
- Use the rubric, our class discussions, and readings to shape your poems and discover a style you like

Format:

- You can write in any style
- You can arrange the poems on the page any way you'd like
- The poems can be serious, sad, joyous, funny, or ironic
- The poems can be long or short but should be complex enough to maintain interest
- This means that you should take advantage of the metaphorical power of language
- The poems should work together to explore a single question that is important to you

How:

- You can start writing prose and edit it down into a poem
- You can write phrases and images and link them together
- You can pick a specific form like a sonnet and use this to guide your writing
- You should be conscious about the choices you are making
- You should alternate between your imaginative and intuitive mind and your analytical brain
- You should have fun and try things; remember you will revise these draft poems

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