

## Poetry Friday: A Yearlong Exploration of Poetry Honors English 10

There are millions of poems in the world, and as former U.S. Poet Laureate, Billy Collins, says, "Poems can inspire and make us think about what it means to be a member of the human race. By just spending a few minutes reading a poem each day, new worlds can be revealed."

At the start of each Friday, one student will present aloud his or her favorite poem. By the assignment's completion, each of you will have a collection of quality poetry that represents the varying personalities of the students in the class.

Qualifications: There is no length requirement, but there is a literary merit requirement. It is important to study thought-provoking poetry. If your poem was found on the internet and has various spelling and grammatical errors, it will not be used.

Challenge yourself to find something of quality that **is worth class time**. If you have no idea, visit the Library of Congress' website <https://www.loc.gov/poetry/180/> which suggests 180 poems. Don't be afraid to ask me.

### Presentation Guidelines

1. I will distribute a presentation schedule. Be aware when your week is coming.
2. You must have your poem to me on or before Thursday of your assigned week for approval.
3. First: pass out your poem.  
Second: read the poem aloud.  
Third: discuss what it means and why you were drawn to it. Don't rush. This is the most important part. Explain why it has literary merit and is interesting and worthwhile.  
Fourth: point out the poet's use literary devices. These can be metaphors, similes, repetition, rhythm, alliteration...  
Fifth: ask for and answer any questions. (I always ask questions!)
4. The poem cannot be song lyrics.
5. The poems must be typed, not handwritten. They can be emailed to me.
6. I encourage you to bring in a poem you wrote or that a friend wrote.
7. You must save everyone's poem. There will be a final project with these poems.

Grading: 15 points

These will be added to your 4<sup>th</sup> quarter grade.

In a small class, we may go through the list of presenters twice = 30 points.