



Healing Through The Arts®

Where those who are healing find strength,
hope and inspiration through the arts.

English, Lesson 2 – *Contemporary Art Poem*

Lesson goal – To encourage creating writing and thinking

Target students – All levels

Learning Objective – Students will locate a piece of contemporary art and create a poem with rich art-inspired figures of speech while also incorporating the theme of hope and or healing

Outcome – Students will deconstruct a piece of art into imagery and then rebuild some of those images into an inspiring poem

Standards – The following educational standards are addressed in this lesson:

- PA CC.1.4.11-12.Q
- PA CC.1.4.11-12.R
- PA CC.1.4.11-12.T
- PA CC.1.4.11-12.U

Materials / Resources – The following resources will be required for this lesson:

- Computer with word processing software and Internet connection
- Literary terms website: http://www.tnellen.com/cybereng/lit_terms/
- Search engine to locate local artist

Description of Lesson (recommended duration: 1-2 weeks)

1. Using the Internet or any available resource, students must obtain a piece of art.
2. Once the art is selected, students should make two lists: a literal list of what they can see or touch and a more abstract list of specific associations they can make from the literal list.
3. Students should create thorough lists with words in columns, using the association column to explore the theme of hope and healing.
4. Students should then look for similarities, differences, unique pairings, and/or one image on which to build the rest of the poem.

5. Students should then use figurative language, concrete details, and sparing addition of outside content to create their poem.
 - Literal images (7-10) and Associations (7-10). Students should use 5-8 (from either column) to create a poem. There should also be three examples of the following: simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification; an original title with “inspired by ___ by ___” giving credit to the artist. (Tier 1)
 - Literal images (10-15) and Associations (10-15). Students should use 7-10 (from either column) to create a poem. There should also be four examples of the following: simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification; an original title; two examples of alliteration; enjambment. (Tier 2)
 - Literal images (15-20) and Associations (15-20). Students should use 10-12 (from either column) to create a poem. There should also be five examples of the following: simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification; an original title; four examples of alliteration; enjambment; obvious repetition of a word or phrase; assonance; no end rhyme. (Tier 3)
6. Students should contact the artist, explain the assignment, and share their work.