**Black Out Poetry**

In blackout poetry, you take a page of text that’s already been written and make poetry using those words. You could use a magazine, newspaper, or your favorite novel.

Once you’ve chosen a page of text, read the passage and choose words you like along the way. Start by looking in the first paragraph (or first few lines) of the page, find some words that jump out to you and circle them. See if any phrases stick out to you and circle them. Continue down the page, rereading your work to see if the whole sentence makes sense. The editing process can be fun, often the idea you start out with won’t be the one you end with.

Once you’ve decided that “this is it, this is my blackout poem!” you may begin blacking out the page. You’ll notice that some of the examples I’ve shown you blackout the entire page while others link the words using shapes, bubbles, etc. You can blackout the page using any style you want (google blackout poetry images), but remember: NEATNESS COUNTS!!! Messy coloring, scribbling, incomplete drawings and simply blacking it all out is not acceptable for this form of poetry.

Once you’ve completed your poem, glue it to an 8 ½” by 11” piece of paper and continue the artwork until it is one, cohesive piece.

Before you make permanent marks on your Blackout Poem, please make sure that:

* You take your time when blacking out ‘leftover’ words
* Box the words that make up your poem in PENCIL
* Make sure you have met **all** the requirements on the back
* When you have met all the requirements, carefully and slowly, blackout all the ‘leftover’ words however you choose to do so.
* Now, with a skinny black Sharpie, or even just a black pen, box your ‘keeper’ words again.

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

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Rubric** | | Points Earned | Points Possible | |
| Poem is complete and makes sense. | |  | 5 | |
| Form is correct (minimum 20 words) | |  | 4 | |
| Poem is easily read (from left to right, top to bottom –OR- words are connected with lines, etc.) | |  | 2 | |
| Poem is creative, vivid, and original rather than cliché or hastily thrown together. | |  | 5 | |
| Title of poem (six words). | |  | 2 | |
| Artwork continues from the book page onto the sheet of paper. | |  | 2 | |
| Presentation (visual appeal); neatly printed in ink or typed.  NEATNESS COUNTS!!! | |  | 5 | |
| Your Explanation (attach to poem)   * Should be a well-developed paragraph: hook, topic sentence, 3 points & conclusion. * Do not RETELL your poem; instead, explain the PURPOSE of your poem. What does it mean? How does the image connect to your novel? Or why did you pick this page? What figurative language is used? | |  | 6 | |
| TOTAL |  | 31 | |

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Rubric** | | Points Earned | Points Possible | |
| Poem is complete and makes sense. | |  | 5 | |
| Form is correct (min: 20 words). | |  | 4 | |
| Poem is easily read (from left to right, top to bottom –OR- words are connected with lines, etc.) | |  | 2 | |
| Poem is creative, vivid, and original rather than cliché or hastily thrown together. | |  | 5 | |
| Title of poem (six words). | |  | 2 | |
| Artwork continues from the book page onto the sheet of paper. | |  | 2 | |
| Presentation (visual appeal); neatly printed in ink or typed.  NEATNESS COUNTS!!! | |  | 5 | |
| Your Explanation (attach to poem)   * Should be a well-developed paragraph: hook, topic sentence, 3 points & conclusion. * Do not RETELL your poem; instead, explain the PURPOSE of your poem. What does it mean? How does the image connect to your novel? Or why did you pick this page? What figurative language is used? | |  | 6 | |
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