

Creative Writing Poetry Anthology

The best way to become a better writer is to read. Thus, in order to become a poet, one must read many poems.

Assignment: Read as many poems by as many published poets as you can. [Note: Joe Schmo's webpage is not true publishing!] Then, choose a minimum of ten poems by ten different authors to create a Poetry Anthology, with you as the collection's editor.

Requirements:

1. Select 10 poems by 10 different authors.
2. Type each of the poems. Be sure to type them with the correct line breaks!
3. Use pictures or graphics to illustrate your poems.
4. Title your collection.
5. Write an introduction to your collection in which you discuss your views on "good" poetry and why you chose these particular poems. You may also wish to discuss the title of your collection. (This should be at least half a page in length.)
6. Next to each poem, write a brief 1-3 sentence explanation of why you selected it.

Suggested Authors:

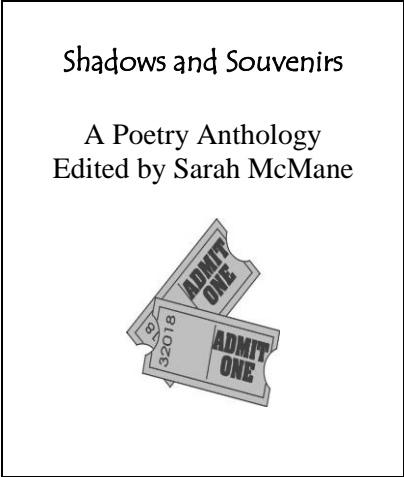
Anna Akhmatova
Matthew Arnold
John Ashberry
Margaret Atwood
W. H. Auden
Basho
Elizabeth Bishop
William Blake
Richard Brautigan
Gwendolyn Brooks
Elizabeth Barrett Browning
Robert Browning
Charles Bukowski
Lord Byron
Sandra Cisneros
Lucille Clifton
Billy Collins
Stephen Crane
e. e. cummings
Emily Dickinson
John Donne
Hilda Doolittle
Rita Dove
T.S. Eliot

Carolyn Forché
Robert Frost
Allen Ginsberg
Nikki Giovanni
Joy Harjo
Seamus Heaney
Langston Hughes
Donald Justice
John Keats
Philip Larkin
D.H. Lawrence
Audre Lorde
Amy Lowell
Edna St. Vincent Millay
Czeslaw Milosz
Marianne Moore
Ogden Nash
Pablo Neruda
Mary Oliver
Dorothy Parker
Octavio Paz
Marge Piercy
Robert Pinsky

Sylvia Plath
Edgar Allan Poe
Ezra Pound
Adrienne Rich
Theodore Roethke
Christina Rossetti
Rumi
Carl Sandburg
Anne Sexton
William Shakespeare
Stevie Smith
Cathy Song
William Stafford
Wallace Stevens
Mark Strand
Algernon Swinburne
Alfred Lord Tennyson
Dylan Thomas
Henry Vaughan
Walt Whitman
William Carlos Williams
William Wordsworth
James Wright
William Butler Yeats

Websites for poetry:

Academy of American Poetry	www.poets.org
Bartleby	www.bartleby.com
Contemporary Poets	http://famouspoetsandpoems.com/poets_contemporary.html
English Server	http://poetry.eserver.org/
Electronic Poetry Server	http://epc.buffalo.edu/
Poetry 180	http://www.loc.gov/poetry/180/p180-list.html
Poet's Corner	http://www.theotherpages.org/poems/




Cover

Introduction

Emily Dickinson once said, "If I read a book and it makes my whole body so cold, no fire can ever warm me, I know that it is poetry. If I feel physically as if the top of my head were taken off, I know that it is poetry." It is difficult to define poetry, and even more difficult to define "good" poetry. What separates a Hallmark card inscription from a Pushcart Prize winner? Certainly both express emotion. But there is more to it than that... (etc. etc.)

Introduction (Page 1)

Barbie's Little Sister
By Ellie Schoenfeld



Barbie's little sister
Aurora
got sent away to reform school
when she was thirteen.
Mattel brought her back complete
with wheat germ, a VW love bus
and a recipe for sesame dream bars.
But she never caught on.
Didn't go for the vanity
table or the bubble head.
Thought Barbie was repressed
and Ken was a nerd
so she hit the road
with his cousin Jeremy.
They went to demonstrations
wore love beads
and got matching tattoos.
Finally Mattel stopped marketing her,
didn't think she'd make
a good role model.

.....

Sample Page

This poem is not only humorous, but it uses specific imagery ("love beads," "wheat germ") which makes the writing come alive. It is also contains a message that mocks stereotypes. Good poetry is descriptive and meaningful.

Sample Explanation

Please remove this page and attach it to the back of your poetry anthology.

Poetry Anthology Rubric

Name: _____

REQUIREMENT	Explanation	YOUR SCORE
10 Poems Typed (50 pts)	All poems are typed correctly with accurate line breaks	/50
10 Different authors (10 pts)	10 different authors are featured. (If you want to include more than one poem by a particular author, you can include EXTRA poems beyond the 10 required.)	/10
Introduction (10pts)	Introduction of at least a half a page (double-spaced) discusses your views on “good” poetry and why you chose these particular poems. You may also wish to discuss the title of your collection.	/10
Explanation of Choices (20pts)	Each poem includes a 1-3 sentence explanation of why it was selected as a “good poem.” Avoid beginning each explanation with “This is a good poem because...”	/20
Illustration and Design (10 pts)	Collection is illustrated with original art, collage, photos, or other design elements. Shows neatness and effort.	/10
TOTAL		/100