

Biographical Poems

Purpose:

- To help students view writing as a personal and meaningful activity
- To provide a “pattern” for students to help them develop ideas, choose descriptive words and gain confidence in their writing abilities.

Procedure:

- Students list characteristics of themselves using descriptive words and phrases.
- Students become aware of the process of changing and/or eliminating redundant or inappropriate words and phrases
- Students experience the satisfaction of creating a polished piece of writing.

Example of a bio-poem pattern:

Line 1: Your first name only

Line 2: Traits that describe you

Line 3: Sister/Brother of... (or son/daughter or, spouse of...)

Line 4: Love of... (three ideas)

Line 5: Who feels... (three ideas)

Line 6: Who needs... (three ideas)

Line 7: Who gives... (three ideas)

Line 8: Who fears... (three ideas)

Line 9: Who would like to see... (three ideas)

Line 10: Resident of (city or street name)

Line 11: Your last name only