

Poetry Workshop: Painting with Words

Learning objective: To use figurative language and descriptive techniques to compose an original poem about nature.

Follow the prompts below to build your poem. Use the word bank to help add detail and flow to your writing. Remember to focus on your senses: what can you see, hear, or feel in your chosen setting?

The ancient forest breathed a soft, emerald sigh as the sun began to dip below the horizon.

Word bank: shimmering · whispering · echoing · vibrant · as bold as · like a silent · beneath the canopy · the golden glow of · furthermore · consequently

1. Stanza 1: Setting the Scene. Describe the environment using a simile or metaphor. Start with: 'The [setting] was as [adjective] as...' (2 marks)

2. Stanza 2: Sensory Details. Focus on a sound or a smell. Start with: 'I could hear [sound] which sounded like...' (2 marks)

3. Stanza 3: The Movement. Describe something moving through your setting. Start with: 'Suddenly, the [subject] glided past...' (2 marks)

4. Stanza 4: Reflection. How does this place make you feel? Start with: 'A feeling of [emotion] settled over me because...' (2 marks)

5. Final Polish: Choose one line from your poem and add a powerful adjective or adverb to make the image clearer. (1 mark)

Extension challenge: Try to include personification in your poem. For example, can the wind whisper? Can the trees dance? Rewrite one of your stanzas to include this technique.