

Y5 Poetry Performance

KS2 Y5 English · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Plan how to perform: 'The washing flaps. The breezes blow.'

Step 1 · What is happening?

The wind is getting stronger

Step 2 · Choose pace and volume

A little faster and louder than line 1

Step 3 · Add an action

Flap your hands like washing on a line

Answer: Slightly faster and louder, with a flapping action.

Check: The performance matches the meaning.

2. Now try one with the steps

Learn the first verse by heart

Step 1 · Read the four lines aloud three times

Step 2 · Cover line 4 and say all four lines

Step 3 · Cover lines 3 and 4, then all four

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. What does 'volume' mean when performing a poem?

2. What does 'pace' mean?

3. What is 'tone'?

4. What should your voice do at the end of a question?

5. Name one clue in a poem that tells you to read loudly.

6. Why might you pause before an exciting line?

7. Give one tip for learning a poem by heart.

8. How should you read a sad line of poetry?

9. A poem begins: 'The sky goes quiet. Birds fly low. / The washing flaps. The breezes blow.' Why do you think the poet used short sentences?

10. Which word is onomatopoeia? 'Then CRACK! The sky is split in two'

11. How does the mood change from 'Then CRACK! The sky is split in two' to 'By morning, puddles shine like glass'?

12. Give a specific piece of feedback for someone who read a poem too quickly.

13. Why do rhyme and rhythm make a poem easier to learn by heart?

14. Write performance notes for the line 'The storm has gone. The clouds roll past.'

4. Before you hand it in

Reading every line in the same voice

Plan volume, pace and tone for each verse.

Stopping at the end of every line, even mid-sentence

Follow the punctuation: pause at full stops and commas, and carry on where a sentence runs to the next line.

Rushing because you are nervous

Breathe, look up, and slow down. Practise in front of a mirror or family.

Trying to learn the whole poem in one go

One verse at a time, then join them.