

20 Fun Reading Response Activities for Fiction and Nonfiction,
Aligned with the Common Core • Marilyn Pryle • ARA 2016

Name _____ Date _____

Concrete Found Poem



You will create a **Concrete Found Poem** from our reading so far.

- A “concrete” poem is a poem in a shape.
- A “found” poem is a poem made up **ONLY** of words from another text (not the words in your own mind).

Scan here for pictures of finished Concrete Found Poems!

Your Concrete Found Poem will focus on one of the elements below. Circle one and name it:

Character _____ Setting _____ Theme _____

Gather quotes from our reading about your topic. List them, with their page numbers cited, on a separate page which you will turn in. You must have **at least** _____ quotes.

Imagine a shape or picture that would represent your topic. What could it be? _____
Lightly sketch out the image on a clean sheet of paper.

Shape or fill in your image with the words from your quote sheet to create a concrete poem. Do not draw anything; use only the words from your quote “palette” to create the picture. You can shape, bend, enlarge, shrink, darken, stretch or squeeze the words in any way in order to make your image. Be creative!

Turn in your quote sheet and completed Concrete Found Poem together with this sheet.

Rubric

Quote Sheet with _____ quotes and page numbers	20 _____
Quotes accurately represent topic	20 _____
Image represents topic	20 _____
Quotes Creatively Arranged to Form Image	20 _____
Spelling, Mechanics, and Overall Effort	20 _____
TOTAL	100 _____

Post Card Home Brainstorming Questions:

- Where are you?
- Do you like it? Why or why not?
- (Briefly—1 or 2 sentences) What has happened to you so far?
- What are you struggling with?
- What have you learned so far, about yourself or others?
- What will you do?
- How do you feel about the recipient?

Character Bucket List Brainstorming Questions:

- What is the greatest thing the character could achieve in life?
- Where in the world would the character want to travel?
- What famous people would the character want to meet?
- What is the ultimate expression of the character's talents?
- If the character wrote a book, what would it be about?
- What farfetched experiences could you see the character having?

Character To-Do List Brainstorming Questions:

- What does he or she *have* to do on a daily basis?
- What does the character *want* to do or achieve?
- What are the character's responsibilities?
- What are the character's goals?
- Where does the character have to go?
- Whom does the character need to speak to?

Facebook Brainstorming Topics:

Character Name	Family	Music
Hometown	Relationship Status	Books
School	Places	Likes
Works at	Favorite Quotation	Photos

Steps to Creating an Evite:

1. Create an event and decide which character would host it.
2. Create a guest list.
3. Figure out who would actually attend, who would not (because of a conflict or other reason) and who is undecided.
4. Have each invited guest leave a comment.
5. Have guests comment on each other's comments.

Steps for Creating a Catalogue:

1. Scan the text, and find any objects that are important, interesting, or symbolic in the story.
2. You can also choose any homes, structures, or places to be sold as real estate.
3. You can also invent items that could have existed in the story even though they aren't specifically explained in the text. For example, you could have a "rare photo" of a main event in the story, even though the story doesn't include this photo. If you invent an item, you must back it up with other evidence from the text.
4. After looking at examples of actual catalogues, set up your catalogue. You can group your items in categories, but each item must be listed separately. You should have at least 15 items.
5. For each item, have a picture, description, price, and citation (page number) from the book. Your descriptions should reflect your understanding of the story.
6. Remember, since this is a catalogue, you should write in the second person. Your audience is possible buyers, and your purpose is to sell items.
7. Give your catalogue a cover and a clever title. Arrange all parts in an appealing way.

INFO
GRAPH
ICS



Scan for instructions on generating infographics, and to see examples.

Possible Wordle Questions:

- What is the biggest word in the Wordle? Why? Find a medium word and a small word. Explain.
- Which character gets talked about the most here? Why?
- Find a word about a setting. What happened there?
- Find a word about an action / event. What happened?
- Find a word about a theme. Why do you think so?
- Find a word that could be a character trait for one of the characters. Explain.
- Find a noun, adjective, and verb. How does each fit in the story?
- Find a word you don't understand, or you are surprised to see. Why?
- What word or name seems to be missing here? Why, do you think?
- Write a sentence about the story using at least five words from the Wordle.
- Choose five words from the Wordle and write a haiku with them.
- Choose a word that you haven't used yet in your answers, and make a prediction with it.



Scan for more ways to use Wordle in the classroom!

Thank-You Letter Brainstorming and Drafting Questions:

1. Think about the story. Who has a reason to be thankful? To whom? Remember, you don't have to choose the first answer that comes to your mind. You can be clever and creative.
2. Choose one idea above and rewrite it below. Brainstorm it further: why should this person be grateful? What are at least two specific reasons? Write them:
3. Find a page number of one of your reasons above. Write it next to the reason and circle it.
4. Your letter should have at least three paragraphs: a short introduction, a body paragraph, and a short conclusion.
5. Write a draft of your letter using a letter format.

Break-Up Letter Brainstorming and Drafting Questions:

1. Think about the story. Who no longer likes each other? Who no longer likes or needs a certain thing or place? Who used to believe in an idea, but no longer does?
2. Choose one idea above and rewrite it below. Brainstorm it further: why is this person "breaking up" with the other person, thing, place or idea? Give at least two reasons:
3. Find a page number of one of your reasons above. Write it next to the reason and circle it.
4. Your letter should have at least three paragraphs: a short introduction, a body paragraph, and a short conclusion.
5. Write a draft of your letter using a letter format.

Pinterest Instructions:

1. Choose a character from the story. You will create a Pinterest page for that character.
2. You must have at least five "boards" for that character. Boards can be about any topic.
3. For each board, you must have at least six "pins." A pin can be a picture, famous quote, symbol, set of instructions—anything.
4. For each pin, you must cite a page number from the text. Ask yourself, "What made me think this pin would fit the character?" Then find that page number in the text.
5. You are ready to create your character's Pinterest page! Make a coversheet that is your character's Profile: it should include his / her name, picture, and a short description. You can also list your character's "Followers" and those he / she is "Following."
6. Make each board its own page. Give the board title on top, and arrange your pins below. Put the cited page number below each pin, and, if necessary, a short comment or description as well. You can draw your pins, print them, or clip them from magazines.

Name _____

Date _____

Character Scrapbook

You will make a scrapbook about a certain character's life, using the information in the book.

Your scrapbook will have _____ pages.

- 1. Write the character's name here: _____
- 2. Think of your character and answer these questions on a sheet of paper.
 - 1) What are your character's traits?
 - 2) What are some of the character's best or most meaningful moments or events?
 - 3) What are your character's favorite places? Why?
 - 4) Who are your character's best friends or supporters?
 - 5) What are some of your character's favorite things? Why?
- 3. Now, go back to each example you wrote above and **find a page number in the book** that cites or proves your example. Write it down next to your example.
- 4. A scrapbook is usually **chronological** (in order of time). On a separate sheet, create a **timeline** of all your examples above. Put them in order of real time. Each example will become its own page in the scrapbook.
- 5. Think of how you can represent each example above—can you draw a picture or glue a piece of fabric to the page? Can you write some words or decorate with symbols? Could you recreate something from the character's life (a letter, note, scorecard, report card, ticket, or award ribbon) and glue it into the scrapbook? **Each page of the scrapbook should have both information and a visual.**
- 6. Lastly, **find a direct quotation for each page** of your scrapbook. Use the page numbers you found above. Go to that page, and find a specific sentence or two that supports your example. As you make your scrapbook, find a spot on each page to write your quotation and page number.
- 7. You are ready to begin! Do the cover last, and make it appealing. When you are done, you will hand in your sheet with the answers to the questions above, your timeline, and the finished scrapbook.

Rubric	
Process: Brainstorm, Timeline, Minimum _____ pages	20 _____
Meaningful Information on each page	20 _____
Quotation with page number on each page	20 _____
Interesting visual on each page / Appealing cover	20 _____
Overall effort / creativity / spelling / mechanics	20 _____
TOTAL	100 _____

Word Alert!

Directions: Find a word, copy its sentence, and fill in the other bubbles. Repeat.

WORD: _____
pg.: _____

Sentence: _____

What's a less interesting word
that the author DIDN'T choose?

synonyms: _____ / _____
antonyms: _____

WHY do you think the author liked THIS word?

WORD: _____
pg.: _____

Sentence: _____

What's a less interesting word
that the author DIDN'T choose?

synonyms: _____ / _____
antonyms: _____

WHY do you think the author liked THIS word?

Figurative Language Scavenger Hunt!

Directions: Look through pages _____ in your book. Find examples of each the types of figurative language below. Copy the word or phrase and **cite the page number**.

Alliteration or Assonance

Pg: _____

Why did the author use it?

Simile or Metaphor

Pg: _____

Why did the author use it?

Personification

Pg: _____

Why did the author use it?

Onomatopoeia

Pg: _____

Why did the author use it?

Imagery & Its Sense (Sight, Smell, Sound, Touch or Taste)

#1 _____ Pg. _____ Sense _____

#2 _____ Pg. _____ Sense _____

#3 _____ Pg. _____ Sense _____

Why these choices? _____