

Important Concepts . . .

Preview Review



Language Arts

Grade 7

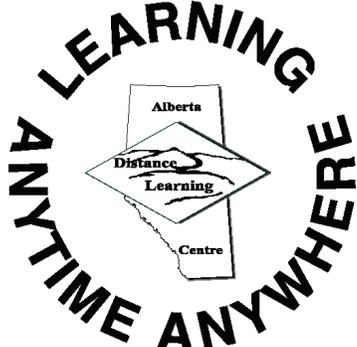
***W3 - Lesson 4: Writing Poetry
About Letters***

Important Concepts of Grade 7 Language Arts	Materials Required
W1 - Lesson 1 Communication Skills	Textbooks
W1 - Lesson 2 Sentence Structure	<i>ResourceLines 7/8</i>
W1 - Lesson 3 Punctuation Skills	
W1 - Lesson 4 Writing Paragraphs	
W1 - Quiz	<i>SightLines 7</i>
W2 - Lesson 1 What's a Short Story?	
W2 - Lesson 2 Short Story Analysis	
W2 - Lesson 3 Literary Techniques	
W2 - Lesson 4 Essays	
W2 - Quiz	
W3 - Lesson 1 Poetic Structure	
W3 - Lesson 2 Forms of Poetry	
W3 - Lesson 3 Letters	
W3 - Lesson 4 Writing Poetry About Letters	
W3 - Quiz	

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Preview/Review W3 - Lesson 4

Publisher: Alberta Distance Learning Centre
Author: Sandra Baker
In-House Teacher: Connie Stasiuk and James Tapankov

Project Coordinator: Dennis McCarthy
Preview/Review Publishing Coordinating Team: Nina Johnson,
Laura Renkema, and Donna Silgard



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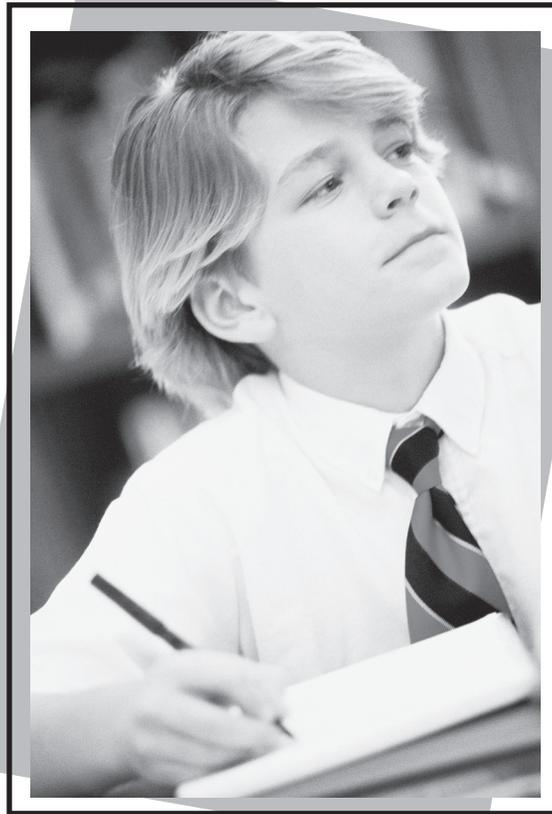
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Preview/Review Concepts for Grade Seven Language Arts



*W3 - Lesson 4:
Writing Poetry About Letters*

OUTLINE

By the end of this lesson, you should

- recognize various topics for poetry
- understand how to turn prose into poetry
- write a free verse poem

GLOSSARY

Refer to *ResourceLines* 7/8

free verse - poetry that does not follow a set pattern for rhyme or rhythm

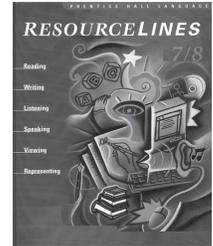
parallelism - using the same endings on different words repeatedly

W3 - Lesson 4: Writing Poetry About Letters

Poetry uses rich language and imagery to communicate the poets' observations, thoughts, emotions, or experiences to the audience. One of the great things about poetry is that we can write poems to describe plain things in interesting ways. You might be amazed to think that you can write poetry about anything, including letters that you read.

In this lesson, you will write a free verse poem about a letter you will read. The poem you write will deliver the message in the letter, but in a much more artistic way.

Remember to use your *ResourceLines 7/8* text to help you in developing your poem. You get to choose the message, and *ResourceLines 7/8* can act as a tool to help you build the best message possible. The better you understand how poetry works, the easier constructing your free verse poem will be. You might want to use similes, metaphors, personification, alliteration, or other devices to enhance your poem because you are not required to follow a specified rhyme or rhythm. Most of all, remember to have fun with this.



Here is an example of a letter (in a personal letter format).

Box 1000
Anywhere, Alberta
T0T 0T0

Dear Steve,

Hello, how are you? It has been a really long time since I've written you. I wanted to tell you all about my summer!

After I finished school, I spent the first few weeks of July just soaking up the sun and riding my bike around the town. I went to the local swimming pool and splashed around with all my friends during the day.

Then, my family went on a vacation to the mountains in Banff. We had a great time! We did some hiking, saw waterfalls, did a bit of shopping in the town, and saw all kinds of animals such as deer, elk, and even a mother bear with her cubs!

After we came home, I spent the rest of the summer doing the same stuff before I left for vacation. It was really fun. The weather was great and it only rained at night, so the days were full of sunshine. That's what summer's all about!

I hope that your summer was good and maybe you can write me and tell me about your summer. That would be great!

Sincerely,

Dave

The following is an example of how Dave responded to Steve, using poetry instead of a letter.

FREE VERSE POEM

The Best Time Of The Year

The end of school; summertime!
What a wonderful time to be alive.

Days filled with sunshine, friends and fun.
Riding my bike up and down the streets,
Jumping in the pool with a shout of laughter,
Sunning myself as I lay back on the cool, green grass.

Going away to the mountains,
Running around the woods,
Running away from bears...,

And then coming back home to do
all the things I did
before I left.

Summertime. Life is good.

This poem tells the same information about the letter Dave wrote to Steve, but it tells it much more interestingly. It also tells it more quickly, for which poetry is handy. For example, in free verse poetry many of the rules that apply in writing regular sentences and paragraphs do not have to be followed quite so closely. You can have a bit more fun with your words and tell the same story!

Notice the use in several lines of words with similar endings (“riding”, “jumping”, “sunning”, “going”, “running”). This is called **parallelism** - using the same word endings several times in a row. Saying parallel words out loud sounds neat. This can also be a kind of internal rhyme where words rhyme at the beginning of or inside lines instead of at the end.

LEARNING LOG

Reflect on and record your learning process for this lesson.

What ideas seemed new to me? What seemed familiar?

Where is one place I can use one of the new ideas today or tomorrow, and how will I apply it?

What do I need to review so I can remember it for future use?

Take some time to review the material you learned this week. In your next session, you will be writing a quiz.

Teacher's Comments: _____
