

In-Class Poetry Slam

Mark Smith says: "The slam is about poets performing professionally to an audience they care about, allowing that audience to enjoy themselves, while presenting them with the most profound and heartfelt poetry the poets can muster."¹

§ Live division § Video division § Poster division §

Schedule

- 10/13 Slam assignment & examples
- 10/14 Readaloud Day -- extra credit, work time on slam poem
- 10/15 Reading Day WEDNESDAY
- 10/20 Complete draft due start of period
- 10/20-21 Writing Center for examples and revisions
- 10/22 Reading Day (WEDNESDAY again!)
- 10/23 All poems DUE at start of class**
- 10/23-24 Competition & Judging

Slam Poem Checklist

- ___ Beginning, middle, end
- ___ Rising intensity
- ___ At least one clear emotion
- ___ Authenticity -- from your heart?
- ___ Audience appeal -- can we relate?
- ___ At least 28 lines (max. 3 minutes)
- ___ (4) Techniques: Do at least four of these things:
 1. ___ Repeat an element at least three (up to five) times, with variations
 2. ___ Rhyme at least three times at end of line (in the space of nine lines)
 3. ___ Echo the beginning in the ending
 4. ___ Soundplay: stretch the meaning of words by combining them for their sounds (includes alliteration and internal rhyme)
 5. ___ A switcheroo (reversal, inversion, twist)
 6. ___ A line so long you can barely say it in one breath
 7. ___ Specific imagery (literal, or metaphoric/symbolic)
 8. ___ Punchline: strongest emotion in the last line

**10/23 All poems, posters, videos, presentations
DUE at start of class**

¹ <http://www.poetryslam.org.uk/slam.html>