

Slam poetry format:

1. The first thing you need to do is **pick a topic** that you are passionate about.
Think about the two poets that we listened to. One spoke about poetry and the other spoke about teaching. The one that spoke about teaching was like... “come at me; try to insult my profession!!”
2. After you have chosen your topic, **what is it about that topic that** enrages you, lights a fire in you, makes you want to argue, or drives you to want everyone to feel the same kind of love you feel for that topic?
If you have a passion for saving something (the planet, animals, etc.), what can you say to make others feel the same kind of passion? Or if you can’t stand the way certain people are treated, what do you do to stand up for their rights? What do you want others to do? Don’t just steal these ideas. Have your own ideas and emotions. I have heard you argue in class. I know you have deep rooted beliefs. Stand for something. Say something. But use wit.
3. **Be clever!!!** Say what you mean, but be clever when you say it. Watch and re-watch the videos we watched in class; I will post their links. Pay attention to how the poet can take one word or phrase and change its meaning. Example: The lawyers ask Taylor what he makes. Instead of telling them how *much* he makes, he tells them the *difference* he makes in the lives of the those he teaches.

I am looking for creativity and wittiness.

4. **Language-** Ask yourself, Is there figurative language present? (similes, metaphor, alliteration, hyperbole, personification, etc.). Are there sound devices present? (rhythm, rhyme, repetition) Is there sensory language in the poem?
5. **Mood-** How does the poem make you feel. If you read it and it makes you feel nothing....it will make your audience feel nothing. What emotions are evoked because of the language being used?
6. **Lastly- Check your message.** You should be sending out some kind of message. What is your central **message or theme** of your poem?

What Teachers Make

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fuBmSbiVXo0>

I Wanna Hear A Poem

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tRslTgjBsls&fbclid=IwAR2O_P1n2aZKEWirvhaZWTQa-qYbqPweBdr9HSqJCvgeznlN1F8DzLsi9ys