

Scholars' Challenge! Compose a found poem

It's almost the end of term, which means that it is time for the first whole school Scholars' Challenge of the year! This term's challenge has been set by the English Department, so quills at the ready.

The Challenge: Create a found poem using the attached page from the Oxford School Dictionary.

The hard bit: A found poem takes words and phrases from another source and 'remakes' them into a poem. For this challenge, you can only use words and phrases from the page you have been given, but you can get creative! You can cut up the page or scan and play around with it digitally. You can make the page itself a work of art. This challenge is about using your imagination, so go wild. Take a look at this for some inspiration:

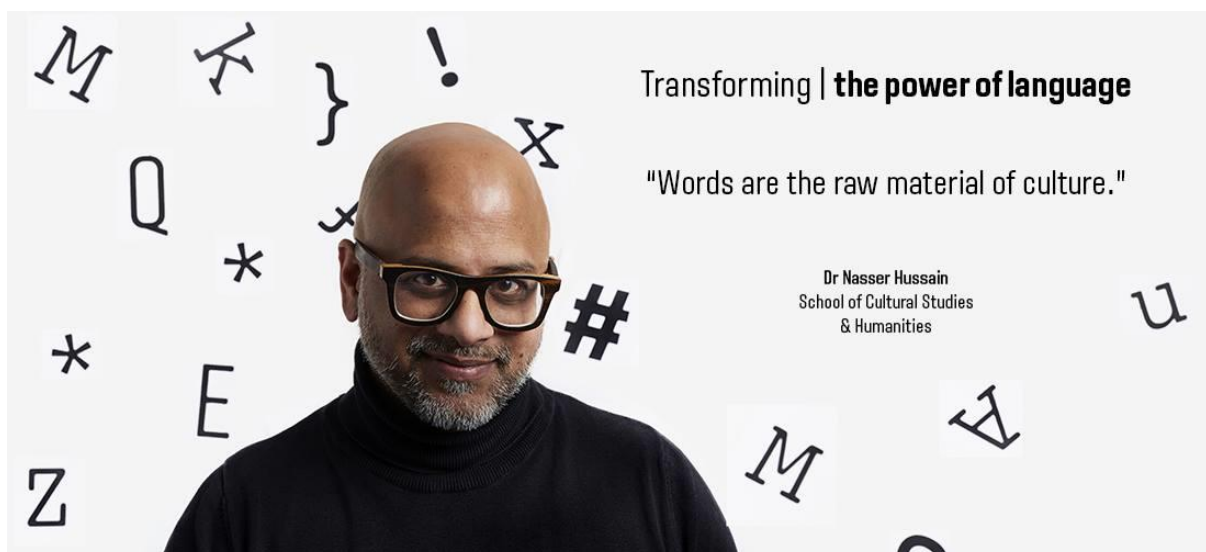
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Found_poetry

The deadline: The competition closes on Friday 25th January (Burns' Night!). Entries should be emailed to Dr Compton (kec@harrogategrammar.co.uk) or handed to your English teacher.

The prize: The winning poet will be the recipient of the first ever Scholars' Colours. Glory will also go to first two runners up.

The judge: Competition entries will be judged by Dr Nasser Hussain, Lecturer in the School of Cultural Studies and Humanities at Leeds Beckett University. His research explores contemporary poetry and poetics, embodiment and performance, and creative writing. Dr Hussain is also a published poet; his most recent work, SKYWRITEINGS, is a collection of poetry composed from IATA airport codes. <https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/staff/dr-nasser-hussain/>

He can't wait to read your poems, so let's show him what HGS can do!



2 They plotted to rob a bank. collude, conspire, have designs, intrigue, scheme.

3 What are you two plotting? [informal] brew, [informal] cook up, design, hatch.

plough verb to plough a field. cultivate, till, turn over.

ploy noun SEE trick noun.

pluck noun SEE courage.

pluck verb 1 to pluck fruit off a tree. collect, gather, harvest, pick, pull off.

2 to pluck a chicken. denude, remove the feathers from, strip.

3 to pluck something out of someone's hand. grab, jerk, seize, snatch, tweak, yank.

4 to pluck the strings of a violin. play pizzicato, strum, twang.

plucky adjective SEE brave.

plug noun 1 Put a plug in the hole. bung, cork, stopper.

2 [informal] a plug for a new record. SEE advertisement.

plug verb 1 to plug a leak. block up, [informal] bung up, close, cork, fill, jam, seal, stop up, stuff up.

2 [informal] to plug a record on radio. advertise, mention frequently, promote.

to plug away SEE work verb.

plumage noun feathers, plumes.

plumb adverb plumb in the middle. [informal] dead, exactly, precisely, [informal] slap.

plumb verb to plumb the depths. measure, penetrate, probe, sound.

plumber noun heating-engineer.

plumbing noun pipes, water-supply.

plume noun feather, quill.

plummet verb SEE plunge.

plump adjective a plump figure. buxom, chubby, dumpy, SEE fat adjective, overweight, podgy, portly, pudgy, rotund, round, squat, stout, tubby.

OPPOSITES: SEE thin adjective.

plump verb to plump down. SEE drop verb.

to plump for SEE choose.

plunder noun The robbers escaped with their plunder. booty, contraband, loot, pickings, prize, spoils, swag, takings.

plunder verb Rioters plundered the shops. despoil, loot, pillage, raid, ransack, ravage, rifle, rob, sack, steal from.

plunge verb 1 She plunged into the water. dive, drop, fall, hurtle, jump, leap, nose-dive, pitch, plummet, swoop, tumble.

2 I plunged my hand in the water. dip, lower, immerse, sink, submerge.

3 He plunged his spear into the animal's side. force, push, thrust.

plural adjective OPPOSITE: singular.

plush adjective SEE luxurious.

plutocrat noun SEE wealthy (wealthy person).

pneumatic adjective pneumatic tyres. air-filled, pumped up.

poach verb 1 to poach an egg. SEE cook verb.

2 to poach game. hunt, steal.

pocket verb Who'll pocket the profits? SEE take.

pocket-knife noun VARIOUS KNIVES: SEE knife noun.

pocket-money noun allowance.

pod noun a pea-pod. case, hull, shell.

podgy adjective a podgy figure. SEE plump adjective.

podium noun SEE platform.

poem noun poetry, rhyme, verse.

KINDS OF POEM: ballad, ballade, [informal] ditty, doggerel, eclogue, elegy, epic, epithalamium, free-verse, haiku, idyll, [informal] jingle, lay, limerick, lyric, nursery-rhyme, pastoral, ode, sonnet.

VERSE FORMS: SEE verse.

OTHER KINDS OF WRITING: SEE writing.

poet noun bard, lyricist, minstrel, rhymer, sonneteer, versifier.

OTHER WRITERS: SEE writer.

poetic adjective poetic language. emotive, [uncomplimentary] flowery, imaginative, lyrical, metrical, poetical.

OPPOSITES: SEE prosaic.

poetry noun SEE poem.

pogrom noun SEE killing noun.

poignant adjective a poignant moment of farewell. affecting, distressing, heart-breaking, moving, painful, pathetic, piquant, SEE sad, tender, touching.

point noun 1 the point of a spear. prong, sharp end, spike, tine, tip.

2 a point on a map. location, place, position, site, situation.

3 a point of time. instant, juncture, moment, second, stage, time.

4 a decimal point. dot, full stop, spot.

5 the point of a story. aim, crux, drift, end, essence, gist, goal, idea, intention, meaning, motive, nub, object, objective, purpose, subject, theme, use, usefulness.