

Culture 3: Handout 1 Cinquain and Diamante Poems

How to Write a Cinquain

Basically, a cinquain is a 5-line poem or stanza with variations.

Variation 1:

- Line 1:** 1-word title
- Line 2:** 2-word phrase describing your title; or, you can just use 2 words
- Line 3:** 3-word phrase describing an action relating to your title, or just actions words
- Line 4:** 4-word phrase describing a feeling relating to your topic, or just feeling words
- Line 5:** 1 word that refers to your title

Variation 2:

- Line 1:** 2 syllables
- Line 2:** 4 syllables
- Line 3:** 6 syllables
- Line 4:** 8 syllables
- Line 5:** 2 syllables

Cinquain Sample (Variation 1)

Forest
Cool, green
Growing, changing, living
I'm calm and serene
Nature

Cinquain Sample (Variation 2)

Forest
Stretching up high
Tall trees growing taller
Compared to them, I am tiny
Giants

How to Write a Diamante

The Diamante is arranged in a diamond pattern, using 7 lines this way:

1. Line 1: 1 word subject (noun)
2. Line 2: 2 adjectives describing Line 1
3. Line 3: 3 words ending in -ing or -ed to describe Line 1 noun
4. Line 7: 1 word growing out of, or opposite to, Line 1 noun (another noun)
5. Line 6: 2 adjectives describing Line 7
6. Line 5: 3 words ending in -ing or -ed to describe Line 7 noun
7. Line 4: 4 words: 2 related to the noun in Line 1 and 2 related to the noun in Line 7.

Diamante Poem Sample

forest
lovely, lush
stretching, singing, cooling
green, colorful, brown, stark
heated, dried, abandoned
dusty, harsh
desert