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

Cinquain Sample (Variation 1)

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

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 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 I 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