



Writing to Learn: Haiku

Use an artwork as a prompt for a haiku poem. This activity enables students to activate their imaginations, gives them a framework for connecting personally with art, and their critical observation skills.

Grade Level: College, Grades 6-8, Grades 9-12
Subject Area: English, Visual Arts
Activity Type: Engagement Activity

HAIKU

Use or adapt the following as a prompt for writing a haiku.

Haikus rose to popularity in Japan during the 17th century, and they are now popular all over the world. A haiku relies on the rhythmic beats (syllables) of language. In a haiku, the first line has 5 syllables, the second line has 7 syllables, and the third line has 5 syllables. Here's an example:

A mountain village
under the piled-up snow
the sound of water.
-Masaoka Shiki

Try writing a haiku about a work of art. A template is below.

Five syllables
Seven syllables
Five syllables