

Due Date: _____

What is a Two-Voice poem?

Two-Voice poetry is written for two people to perform. The poems usually have two columns—one for each person who is reading the poem. Each person reading the poem reads the text in one of the columns. Sometimes, the poet wants the two readers to say something at the same time; so the poet writes the words on the same line in each column. These poems often sound like a dialogue for two people.

Read the poem *Requiem*, silently to yourself. While you read, try to hear the two voices. Imagine the way the voices take turns and overlap.

1. *requiem* means: _____

Now listen to the poem as it is read, then answer the questions.

2. Describe the **effect** of hearing the poem aloud vs. reading it.

3. Why is the poem called *Requiem*?

4. What **literary devices** do you recognize in the poem? List the device and quote the lines.

Now read *Cicadas*. Again, imagine the way this poem would sound read aloud in two voices.

5. Describe some of the differences between *Requiem* and *Cicadas*. Why would the poet construct *Cicadas* the way he did? Provide a couple of specific examples and quote the lines.

6. What literary devices do you recognize in this poem? List the device and quote the lines.

Now watch the videos of some other kinds of Two-Voice poems.

7. What did you find appealing or powerful about the poems and their delivery?

Assignment

How do I write poetry for two voices?

Just like all poetry, poems for two voices need an idea. With your partner, your job is to create and perform a dialogue poem. Use your poem as a “getting to know you” activity. Create a Venn diagram and brainstorm similarities and differences that you can use in your poem. (Note: it is always best practice to come up with MORE ideas than you technically need. Give yourselves options!) Begin crafting your poem into three columns—one column for each speaker in the poem, and one for the shared phrases. You may, however, condense your final draft to two columns like our examples, or maintain the three column format.

Requirements

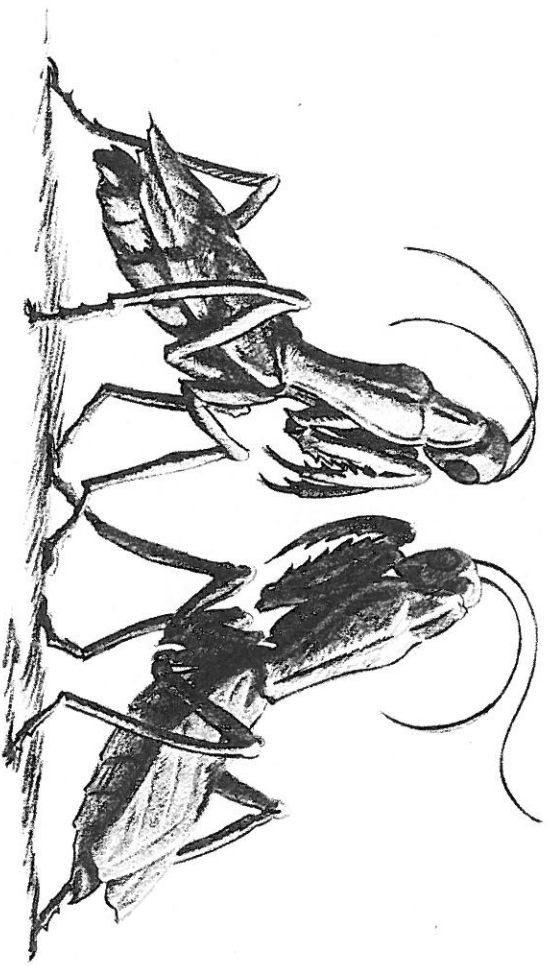
At least one page is the preferred length for your two-voice poem (handwritten), and no longer than 2 pages. Your two-voice poem should include at least FIVE (5) similarities and FIVE (5) differences. You and your partner will be **performing** the poem for the class, so make sure it is school appropriate. PRACTICE before your performance!

When you have finished your poem and performed it for the class, you and your partner will staple your work together before turning it in. This will help to ensure you and your partner receive the same points, and it will streamline the grading process.

Rubric

_____	Thoughtful completion of page 1 & 2 (5 points)
_____	Venn diagram with abundant ideas (5 points)
_____	Requirements of poem met (10 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1-2 pages• 5 similarities and 5 differences
_____	Two-Voice style achieved (10 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written in columns• Solo and overlapping voices• Intentional use of sound, timing, and literary devices.
_____	Presentation with partner (10 points)
_____	Total points (40 points)

Grading scale	40-36 = A
	35-32 = B
	31-28 = C
	27-24 = D



Requiem

<p>Grant them rest eternal</p> <p>Maple moths</p> <p>Let light undying shine upon them.</p> <p>green darners</p> <p>rest eternal</p>	<p>Carolina sphinx moths</p> <p>Grant them rest eternal</p> <p>Let light undying shine upon them.</p> <p>Praying mantises</p> <p>rest eternal</p>
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(34)

brown darners
light undying.
Grasshoppers
great crested
three-banded
Katydids
northern

Cave crickets
mole crickets
tree crickets
field crickets
rest eternal
light undying.
This past night
we had the fall's first
killing frost.

(35)

Black-winged damselflies
light undying.
Grasshoppers
spur-throated
Katydids
round-headed
gladiator

Cave crickets
mole crickets
tree crickets
Grant them
rest eternal
Give them
light undying.

Cicadas from *Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices*, by Paul Fleischman

Afternoon, mid-August

Two cicadas singing

Five cicadas humming

Thunderheads northwestward

Twelve cicadas buzzing

the mighty choir's

assembling

Shrill cica-

das

droning

Three years

spent underground

in darkness

Now they're breaking ground

splitting skins

and singing

rejoicing

fervent praise

Two cicadas singing

Air kiln-hot, lead heavy

Five cicadas humming

Twelve cicadas buzzing

Up and down the street

the mighty choir's

assembling

Ci-

cidas

droning

in the elms

Three years

among the roots

in darkness

and climbing up

the tree trunks

and singing

Jubilant

cicadas

pouring out their

fervent praise

their hymn
sung to the sun
Cicadas

Whin-
ing

whir-
ing

pulsing
chanting from the tree tops
sending
forth their
booming
boisterous
joyful noise!

for heat and light
their hymn

Cicadas
Whining

ci-
cadas
whirring

ci-
cadas
pulsing

chanting from the tree tops

sending
forth their
booming
joyful noise!