



DIDACTIC CINQUAIN (SING -KANE) POETRY

A cinquain is a five-line poem. Some forms of cinquain poetry follow specific rules regarding patterning and number of syllables per line. This activity will follow the guidelines for a didactic cinquain poem.

Are you doing this activity at school or at home?

Follow these suggestions to make your experience fun and successful.

- Search for images of artworks on the Art Institute of Chicago's website: www.artic.edu/collection or look for other objects around you that could help you complete the activity.
- Work together with classmates, family members, or friends to complete the activity and share what you create.

Select an artwork as the inspiration for your poem.

Artwork title and artist: _____

Look closely at the artwork and use your observations to respond to the prompts below to write your poem. Share your finished poem in small groups or with the class. See if others can guess what work of art you wrote about.

Line One: one noun identifying the subject of the artwork

Line Two: two adjectives describing the subject of the artwork

Line Three: three verbs ending in -ing that detail the action in the artwork

Line Four: four individual words or a four-word phrase describing emotions related to the subject of the artwork

Line Five: one noun that is a **synonym** for the subject of the artwork

Example

Dog
 Happy, Playful
 Chasing, Running, Jumping
 Tail doesn't stop wagging
 Friend

GLOSSARY

Didactic, adjective: intended to teach, particularly in having moral instruction as an ulterior motive

Synonym, noun: a word that has the same or nearly the same meaning as another such as happy and joyful