

## Haikus and Tankas

Day 1 - identify poetic conventions of a haiku

Day 2 - use poetic conventions of a haiku

Day 3 - identify poetic conventions of a tanka

Day 4 - use poetic conventions of a tanka

## WALT: use poetic conventions of a tanka

Tankas are traditionally about the writer's feelings towards some aspect of nature or love.

Seashells on the ground White sand is so beautiful I look at the sea It is so very endless And blue, sparkly, and gorgeous	<i>This cold winter night the snow clings to the tree boughs in the pale moonlight the kisses of your soft lips warm this aching heart of mine</i>
A party for you A perfect celebration After the big storm Huge, scary, and powerful It was unlike anything	<b>Crash at two A.M. I opened my bedroom door A white car ran by Startled by the clanging fall Of the treat jar's metal lid</b>
I love my chicken He is so fluffy and white He has a big beak And he is very polite He loves when I pat his back	<b>Snow-covered pine trees Line the frozen pathway home But we turn away The world is a lake of ice And we have one warm hand each</b>
A pool of sunlight Bathes the stormy evening bay A lonely heron Stands still, a cunning statue Waiting for unwary fish	The light filling the air Is so mild this spring day Only the cherry blossoms Keep falling in haste - Why is that so?

What aspects of nature are featured in these poems?

# WALT: use poetic conventions of a tanka

white sand

the sea

seashells

evening bay

big, fluffy  
chicken

sunlight

heron

Seashells on the ground White sand is so beautiful I look at the sea It is so very endless And blue, sparkly, and gorgeous	<i>This cold winter night the snow clings to the tree boughs in the pale moonlight the kisses of your soft lips warm this aching heart of mine</i>
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A pool of sunlight Bathes the stormy evening bay A lonely heron Stands still, a cunning statue Waiting for unwary fish	The light filling the air Is so mild this spring day Only the cherry blossoms Keep falling in haste - Why is that so?

snow

storm

pine trees

## WALT: use poetic conventions of a tanka

Tanka can use similes, metaphor and personification

Similes

Uses 'as' or 'like', compares two things - she was as graceful as a swan, he was like a towering tree

Metaphor

States that one thing IS another, when it isn't – he was a remorseless eating machine.

Personification

Pretends something has human characteristics – the tree sighed longingly.

**Snow-covered pine trees  
Line the frozen pathway  
home  
But we turn away  
The world is a lake of ice  
And we have one warm hand  
each**



## WALT: use poetic conventions of a tanka

We are going to write our own tanka.

Let's start by choosing a theme and collecting some vocabulary...



Summer

snow



# WALT: use poetic conventions of a tanka

**YOUR**  
DICTIONARY

## Winter Word List

As you cozy in for the winter season, refer to this vocabulary word list for all your winter word games!

Arctic	Flurries	Iceberg	Reindeer	Snowstorm
Blanket	Freezing	Icy	Scarf	Socks
Blizzard	Frostbite	January	Shiver	Storm
Blustery	Frosty	Jacket	Snowshoe	Stove
Boots	Frozen	Log	Skates	Sweater
Chilly	Furnace	Melt	Ski	Thaw
Chimney	Gingerbread	Mittens	Sled	Thermometer
Coat	Glacier	Nippy	Sleet	Turtleneck
Cold	Gloves	Overcast	Slippery	Whiteout
December	Gust	Overcoat	Slushy	Wind
Dog Sled	Hail	Parka	Sneeze	Wind chill
Dreary	Heater	Pine cone	Sniffle	Windy
February	Hibernate	Polar bear	Snow	Winter
Fire	Hoodie	Pullover	Snowball	Wintertime
Fireplace	Hot Cocoa	Quilt	Snowfall	Wintry
Flannel	Ice	Radiator	Snowflake	Wood stove
Fleece	Icicle	Raw	Snowman	Wool

## Summer Adjectives Word Bank

scorching	gorgeous	bright	sun-kissed	blistering
beautiful	heated	joyful	endless	boiling
stuffy	cosy	warm	active	delightful
exciting	tropical	summery	happy	cloudless
long	tranquil	light	elegant	roasting
	yellow	burning	blazing	
	balmy	lazy	humid	
	hot	sweaty	lovely	
	blissful	sizzling	muggy	
	sunny	cheerful	clear	





# WALT: use poetic conventions of a tanka



Metacognition



(Teacher example)

Majestic blue bird  
Is like a sapphire in flight  
A whistle is heard  
Yet no blue bird is in sight  
When will I see you again?

You Do It Alone



(Independent)

Your turn!  
Have a go at  
writing your own

WALT: use poetic conventions of a tanka

Purpose: traditionally about nature or love



★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
The weeping willow — 5 syllables  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
Is like an old man asleep — 7 syllables  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
Weak Autumn branches — 5 syllables  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
Reach outward like stretching arms — 7 syllables  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
When will you awaken sir? — 7 syllables

Structure:  
5 lines



## WALT: use poetic conventions of a tanka

### Success Criteria

Success Criteria for writing Tankas				SA
Structure		Structure: 5 lines		
		Rhyme: none necessary		
		First line has 5 syllables		
		Second line has 7 syllables		
		Third line has 5 syllables		
		Fourth line has 7 syllables		
		Fifth line has 7 syllables		
Language		About nature - Summer or snow		
		Strong vocabulary choices		
		Show the emotion through vocabulary choices		



If you would like to perform your poem/s and send us a video of them, we'd absolutely love to hear them! Send them to your teacher's e-mail.

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