

LESSON 4



U: TO WRITE A LOVE POEM IN ROLE.

National Curriculum Links

Writing

Plan their writing by:

- noting and developing initial ideas, drawing on reading and research where necessary

Draft and write by:

- selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary, understanding how such choices can change and enhance meaning

Perform their own compositions, using appropriate intonation, volume, and movement so that meaning is clear.

STARTER:

Ask each child to look over their work from the last few days and pick their favourite adjective. Each child will share their chosen adjective as the teacher records on a whiteboard. Encourage the class to use this word bank to help them when writing their poem today.

MAIN TEACHING:

Children will be using ideas from the last two lessons to write a poem in role, as either Romeo or Juliet.

Explain that they are going to take each of their couplets and extend them by adding two more lines, to make a verse of four lines.

Model this process explicitly, either using your own example or the one below.

**O my love is like a precious jewel,
That glistens among damp earth.**

Ask:

- How could we extend this idea?
- What other words are linked with jewels that we could use?

Record the children's ideas and then model linking words associated with jewels to the person you are writing the poem about (either Romeo or Juliet):

**His whole face sparkles when he smiles,
Blue eyes like shimmering sapphires.**

So, the whole verse would be:

**O my love is like a precious jewel,
That glistens among damp earth.
His whole face sparkles when he smiles,
Blue eyes like shimmering sapphires.**

Ask children to pick out the words relating to jewels i.e. glistens, sparkles, shimmering, sapphires. Emphasise the importance of extending the simile using related words throughout the whole verse.

Do another example with the children, this time asking the children to work with a partner, with you guiding them by following the same system:

- 1) Choose a couplet
- 2) Brainstorm words related to the simile
- 3) Write 2 more lines of poetry

E.g.

**O my love is like a fragrant flower,
That grows in rolling fields.
With cheeks as soft as petals,
And cherry-blossom lips.**

Take feedback from the children and highlight verses where the simile has been extended successfully. Support pairs who have found this tricky.

Share the following **success criteria** with the children before they start work on their own poems, working either independently or in pairs.

- **Similes**
- **Adjectives**
- **Carefully chosen verbs**
- **Short, poetic lines**

PLENARY:

Ask some children to share their poems by reading them out to the rest of the class.