

# 5 Steps to Writing a Poem



## Inspiration

A good poem comes from a good idea. Where can you get your inspiration from? The subject of the poem can be the starting point. If you haven't got a subject, you could look outside the window for inspiration, or pick a memory that sticks out because of the way you felt. Or perhaps you have a strong idea that you want to get across?



## Brainstorm

Try writing the subject of your poem down and brainstorm. Does the word trigger any memories? Perhaps some ideas have already come to you. Try writing those down. How do those connect to the other ideas on your sheet? How could you describe them?



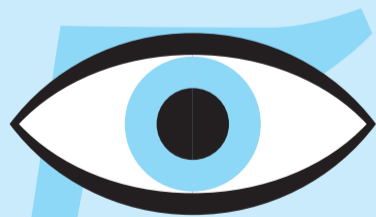
## Form and Style

In class you'll have studied poets who write in different styles. Is there a poet you particularly like, what is it about their style of writing that you enjoy?



## Word Choice

There are many ways of describing the same thing or concept. Look at the adjectives you're using, and what happens if you change them.



## Five Senses

Think about your five senses. Imagine you're writing a poem about a summer's day on the beach. What can you see? The waves lapping on the shore? What do they sound like? What does the sand feel like between your toes? Can you hear the seagulls calling? Can you smell the salty air, or taste your ice-cream? All of your senses can give you material for your poem.

