

LEARNING ENGLISH THROUGH

POEMS AND SONGS



NSS Elective: Poems and Songs

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Introduction

What do you **know** about poems and songs?

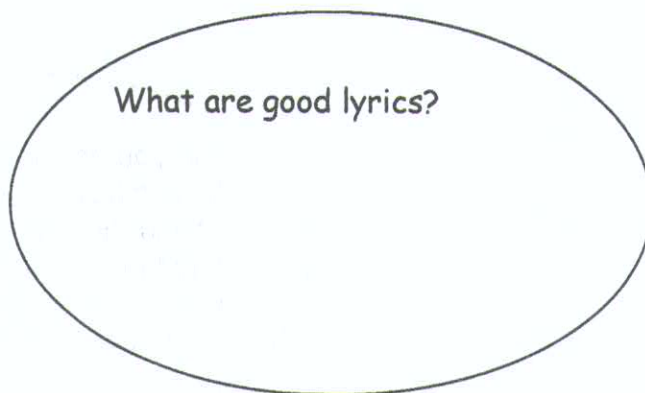
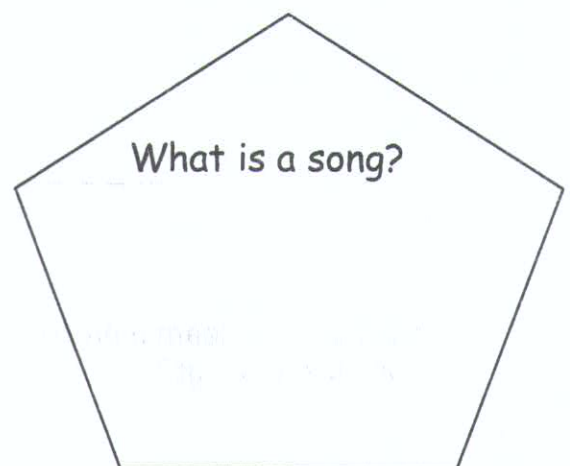
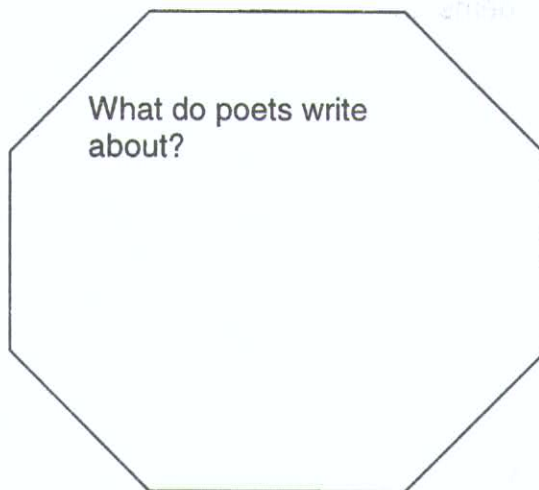
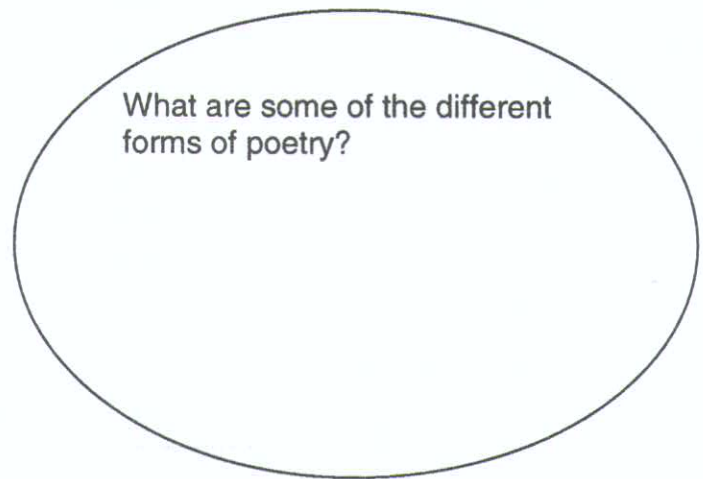
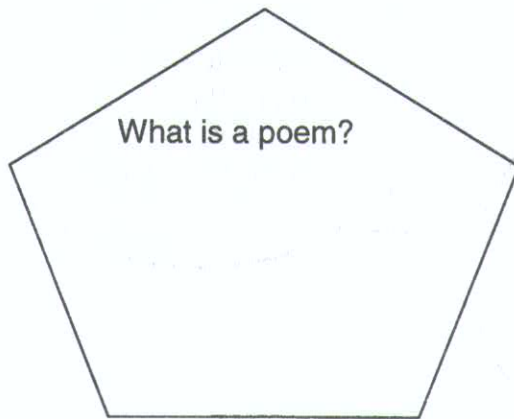
Complete the KWHL chart. You can guess what KWHL stands for!

What do you **want** to learn about poems and songs?

How can you learn more about poems and songs?

Did you notice that the 'L' is missing? At the end of this module you will have an opportunity to write down what you have learnt (L).

Work with your partner to respond to these discussion questions. You can record your ideas in the space provided.



Grammar poems

MTR

Waiting
Pushing
Rushing
Boarding
Scrambling
Squeezing
Sitting
Standing
Reading
Talking
Sleeping
Phoning
Leaving
Alighting
Hurrying
Walking
Running
Mounting
Climbing
Octopussing
MTRing

Anonymous

This poem uses **gerunds** to describe an MTR station during rush hour.

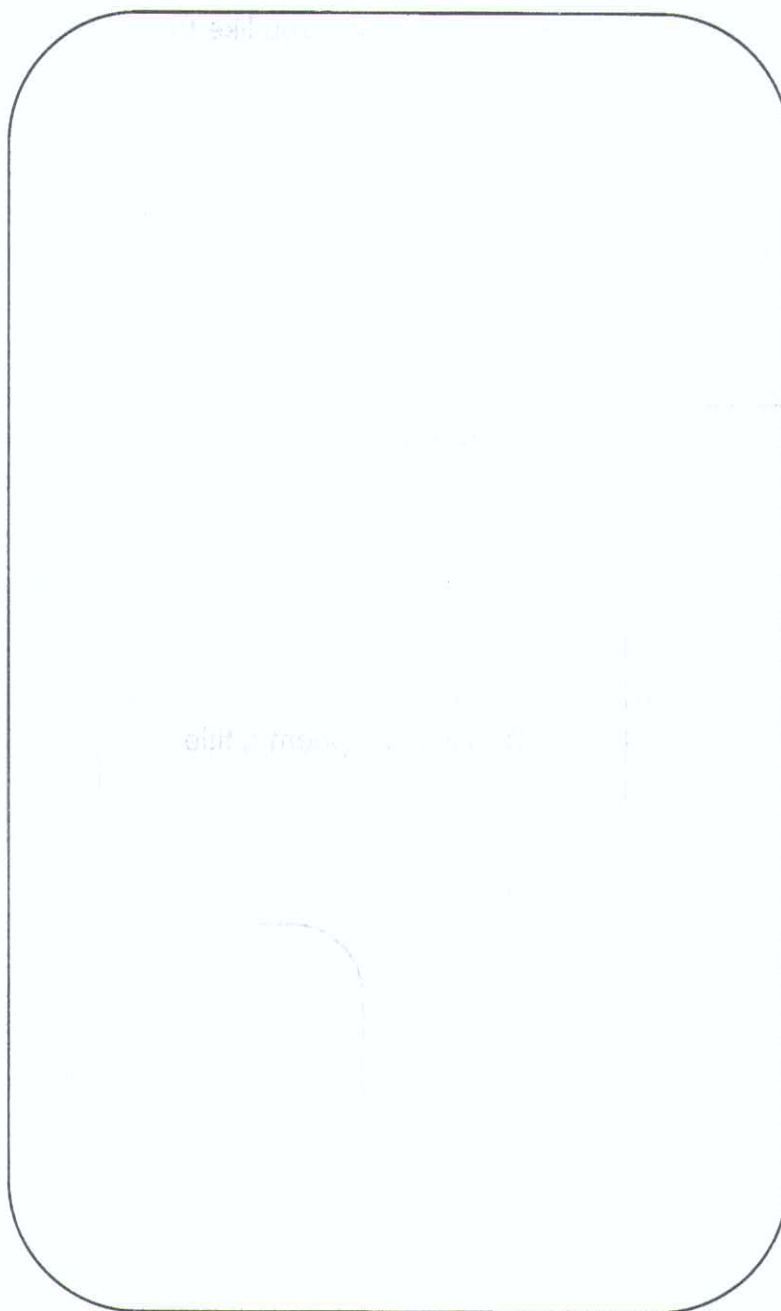
1. The table below is divided into four sections. Each section shows the various stages of what an MTR passenger could experience during rush hours. Place each gerund from the poem in the right box to match what happens at each stage.

Waiting and getting on the MTR	What happens while on board the train
waiting	standing
Getting off the MTR	Catching the MTR on the opposite platform
Leaving	Mounting

2. The last two words of the poem are 'Octopussing' and 'MTRing'. Neither of these are really English words, they are the writer's inventions. Why do you think they are included?

Your turn! Write a gerund poem on one of the following topics:

- Class Christmas party
- Sports Day
- Playing basketball
- Mongkok at a busy time
- OLE Day activity
- Your own topic– check with your teacher first



Animal poems

Think of an animal:

How big is it?
How does it move?
What is it covered by?
Where does it live?
What does it eat?

What colour is it?
What sound does it make?
What does it smell like?
How does it act?
Would it be a good pet?

An Elephant

An elephant is.....
Big like a bus, grey like a storm cloud.
An elephant has.....
Skin like old boots, a trunk like a fire hose.
Tusks curved like bananas,
Ears like huge fans,
A tail like an old broomstick.
Strong as ten Tarzans
This is an elephant

Mary Roberts

Your turn!

Start your poem with a simple statement. When you think of describing the animal, try to use comparisons and adjectives. Finish your poem with another simple statement. Have fun!

Think of an animal

Think of its size

Think of its colour

Think of its shape

Think of its covering

Another description

Another description (optional)

Simple statement