Language That Hits: Unit Overview

ENG2D, Grade 10 Academic English, Unit 6. 9 classes of 75 minutes (about two weeks).

The big question

Why does some language stay with us for years?

Students make blackout poems, analyse public-domain poems and the lyrics of songs they love, write a comparative analysis and finish with an original spoken word performance at a class slam.

Lessons

#	Lesson	Classes	Question	Expectations	What's inside
1	**Blackout Poetry**	1	What happens when you cut almost every word?	R 2.1, 2.3; W 2.2, 2.3	Original source page; blackout poems; mini gallery
2	**Sound and Image**	1	How do poems work on the ear and eye?	R 1.4, 1.6, 2.1, 2.3	“In Flanders Fields” and Dickinson's “Hope”; device hunt
3	**Two Roads**	1	What does Frost's poem really say?	R 1.4, 1.6, 1.8, 2.3	“The Road Not Taken”; vote, close read, revote
4	**Voices**	1	How does voice carry identity?	R 1.6, 1.8, 2.3; OC 2.5	Hughes's “Mother to Son”; E. Pauline Johnson (Tekahionwake)
5	**Lyric Breakdown**	1	Are songs poems?	R 1.4, 1.6, 2.3; OC 2.4	Students analyse a school-appropriate song of their choice
6	**Compare Two Poems**	1	How do two poems speak to each other?	R 1.4, 1.6, 2.3; W 2.2	Comparison planner; in-class comparative analysis (summative)
7	**Spoken Word Workshop**	2	How do you write for the ear?	W 2.2, 2.3; OC 2.4, 2.5	“I am from” and list prompts; device check; rehearsal
8	**The Slam**	1	Can your words fill a room?	OC 2.4, 2.5, 2.6; W 4.1	Class slam with snaps; writer's reflection (summative)

Assessment

Type	In this unit
Assessment for learning	Annotations, device hunt, interpretation paragraph and lyric breakdown
Assessment as learning	Blackout reflection, gallery notes, rehearsal feedback and writer's reflection

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Type	In this unit
Assessment of learning	Comparative poetry analysis (Reading) and spoken word performance (Oral), with rubrics in the Summative Tasks document

The poems

These poems are in the public domain and are printed in the handouts:

- **“In Flanders Fields”** by John McCrae (1915)
- **“‘Hope’ is the thing with feathers”** by Emily Dickinson (published 1891)
- **“The Road Not Taken”** by Robert Frost (1916)
- **“Mother to Son”** by Langston Hughes (1922), public domain in Canada and the United States
- **E. Pauline Johnson:** choose a public-domain poem, such as “The Song My Paddle Sings,” and print it from a reliable source

Song lyrics are usually under copyright: students quote only short excerpts for analysis.

What's in each lesson

- Teacher lesson plan with expectations, timed sequence, differentiation, look-fors and answer guides
- Slides with speaker notes
- Student handouts and organizers
- Editable Word and PowerPoint files, plus PDFs

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