

25 Adjectives (Give One, Get One Version)

Goal: To develop the ability to look closely at and describe an object.

Objectives: Students will look closely and notice the nuanced details of an object.
Students will use descriptive vocabulary to describe an object.

Common Core Standards:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.7 Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

Visual Literacy Skills: Close Looking, Describing

Materials: clipboard, writing paper, pencils, an object or work of art for study

Length: 5 - 10 minutes

Step 1: Give each student a clipboard, worksheet, and pencil.

Step 2: In front of a work of art, tell the students they will have 5 minutes to list as many adjectives that describe the work of art in the left hand column of their worksheets as they can.

Step 3: After 5 minutes is up, tell the students they are going to work together to improve their lists. Have the students find a partner and compare lists in the following way: student 1 shares their adjectives until they get to one that is not on student 2's list. Student 2 writes this word down in the *right hand column* of the worksheet. Now student 2 shares adjectives until they come to one not on student 1's list. Student 2 writes this word down on their worksheet.

Step 4: After both students have "gotten" a new word. Have the students switch partners and repeat the process. Now the students will all have 2 new words. Continue switching partners and building lists.

Step 5: Lead a short discussion with the students about their lists. What were the most common words? What words were surprising? What did your classmates see that you didn't initially notice?

***Optional extension activity-** ask the students to use their lists as the basis for a short story about the object. Challenge them to use as many as the descriptive adjectives as possible in their writing.

Cinquain

Goal: To encourage close looking and describing through writing poetry.

Objectives: Participants will work in small groups to write a cinquain about a work of art.

Common Core Standards:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.SL.1 Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.SL.4 Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

Visual Literacy Skills: Close Looking, Form, Ideas, Describing

Materials: Cinquain worksheet, pencils

Length: 15-20 minutes

Step 1

Tell the students that they are going to work together to write a poem about a work of art.

Step 2

Choose one work of art to look at together. Ask the groups to look closely at the image describe what they see. After a few minutes of discussion, ask them to help you write a cinquain about the work of art. Line by line ask the students for descriptive words and phrases to create the poem. After you have finished, read the poem back to the class.

Step 3

Pass out the cinquain worksheets. Tell the students that it's their turn to write a cinquain on a work of art of their choice. Allow each student to select an image or work of art to write about.

Step 4

Give the students 5-10 minutes to work. If a student is stuck, you may want to allow them to ask one another for help.

Step 5

Ask for volunteers to read their finished poems aloud

Ask the group to consider the following:

What was challenging about this activity?

What new insights did you gain into the work of art?

Cinquain Worksheet

A cinquain is a five-line poem that describes a person, place or thing. Here's an example:

oak	?	A one-word title, a noun
majestic, gigantic	?	Two adjectives
standing, shading, growing	?	Three -ing verbs
in need of a tire swing	?	A phrase
tree	?	Synonym, another noun

Use this chart to write your own cinquain.

1: _____

A one-word title, a noun that tells what your poem is about

2: _____, _____

Two adjectives that describe what you're writing about

3: _____, _____, _____

Three -ing verbs that describe what your poem is about

4:

A phrase that tells more about what you're writing about

5:

A synonym for your title, another noun that tells what your poem is about