BIOPOEM

PURPOSE OF THE STRATEGY

The Biopoem was developed by many teachers including the following version by Gere (1985) to help writers synthesize their learning about a subject— a person, place, thing, concept, or event. The Biopoem follows a pattern that makes it easier for beginning writers to complete as they play with ideas.

DIRECTIONS

Line 1. First name
Line 2. Four traits that describe character
Line 3. Relative (brother, sister, daughter, etc.) of _______
Line 4. Lover of ________ (list three things or people)
Line 5. Who feels _______ (three items)
Line 6. Who needs ______ (three items)
Line 7. Who fears _______ (three items)
Line 8. Who gives _______ (three items)
Line 9. Who would like to see ______ (three items)
Line 10. Resident of _______
Line 11. Last name

EXAMPLE

JAY
Independent, determined, obedient, talented
Relative of two older sisters and one older brother
Lover of the Lord, knowledge, and Vauri
Who feels tired constantly, anxious, happy
Who needs a job, ESPN, California
Who fears snakes, spiders, getting fat
Who gives 100%, kisses to Vauri, high fives
Who would like to see Scotland, Jesus Christ, and never ending happiness
Resident of Provo but from California

SHEAN

Shean, BYU, 2003
ASSESSMENT

The Biopoem allows the teacher to analyze the students’ understanding of concepts and ideas. It provides a means of checking for thinking and can also be a way for the teacher to get to know the students better. It is effective at any point during the semester.

Shean, BYU, 2003