

RUBRIC FOR POLISHING YOUR POEM

Ask yourself the following questions to guide your efforts in revising your poem.

Questions		Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement
1.	Have you eliminated all unnecessary words?	I have eliminated all unnecessary words.	I have eliminated some of them.	I have not eliminated any of them.
2.	Have you recorded observations from your five senses?	I have recorded observations from at least three of my senses.	I have recorded observations from one or two of my senses.	I have recorded no observations from my senses.
3.	Do you <u>show</u> rather than tell your ideas?	I always show readers what I want them to see.	I sometimes show readers what I want them to see.	I never show readers what I want them to see.
4.	Do you end each line with a strong word or phrase?	I end all lines with a strong word or phrase.	I end some lines with a strong word or phrase.	I end no lines with a strong word or phrase.
5.	Does your poem express an opinion or point of view?	It strongly expresses an opinion or point of view.	It weakly expresses an opinion or point of view.	It does not express an opinion or point of view.
6.	Does the last line feel like the right place to end your poem?	It definitely feels like the right place to end my poem.	It kind of feels like the right place to end my poem.	It does not feel like the right place to end my poem.
7.	Does your poem reflect the characteristics of a free verse poem?	It has all of the characteristics of a free verse poem.	It has some of the characteristics.	It has none of the characteristics.
8.	Are you proud of your efforts?	I have done my best.	I feel pretty good about my efforts.	I know I can do much better.

Adapted from Demerjian, T. (2001). Poetry consultant helps English learners 'speak out loud.' *The Council Chronicle*, 16, 4.