

**Name of activity:** Play with Poems

**Short description:** An activity that encourages students' creativity and improves their vocabulary. Follow up activity to activity 1.17 where students read a poem about a tree.

**Link to curriculum:** Grade 9; Unit 1.17

**Difficulty level:** medium

**Time:** 30 minutes

**Learning outcomes:** By the end of this activity students will have written a poem on the theme of nature.

(Competency 4; Vocabulary)

**Option 1**

Lesson plan with:

✓ No resources

Link to material:

<http://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/teaching-kids/get-writing>

## Option 1: Worksheet

**Preparation: N.B** This activity should be done after students read the poem “trees” (activity 1.17).

Stage / Time	Procedure
<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p><b>10 mins</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Put students into small groups (3 or 4 students per group)</li> <li>Put up a topic for students to brainstorm in groups. (They could say whatever that comes to their mind when they think of the topic).</li> <li>Get all students involved and put up their suggestions on the board. For example, on the topic of nature brainstorm for trees, flowers, wild animals, rivers, etc</li> </ol> <div style="text-align: center;">  <pre> graph TD     nature((nature)) --&gt; animals     nature --&gt; trees     nature --&gt; rivers     nature --&gt; flowers             </pre> </div> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduce some topics that the students have already or will be coming across in their text book. <i>E.g. wild animals, flowers in Sri Lanka, trees...</i></li> <li>Ask students to pick one topic per group and think of words they associate with the topic.</li> <li>You could ask students to refer to their text book to stimulate associations.</li> <li>Now tell students that they are going to write a poem.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Writing</b></p> <p><b>15 mins</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ask students to organise their words alphabetically. e.g. Topic: flowers Araliya beautiful rare red and yellow</li> <li>Ask students to pick one word and challenge your learners to think of as many words as they can that begin with same letter of the alphabet and have the same sound. <i>For example: sweet, sun flowers, swaying, silently</i></li> <li>Now encourage your learners to play with the words and make connections. For example, what's swaying? What do flowers do?</li> <li>Get students to create shorter and longer sentences, arranging and rearranging their words and ideas.</li> </ol>

	<p>e.g. <i>Sweet scented sunflowers swaying silently/</i></p> <p><i>Silently swaying sweet sunflowers</i></p> <p>5. Ask them to come up with rhyming words for the words at the end and build a line with the rhyming word.</p> <p>e.g. <i>Silently swaying sweet sunflowers</i> <i>Are the best for garden lovers</i></p> <p>6. Get students to compose similar lines so that they have about 4 lines.</p> <p>7. Monitor and help students to come up with vocabulary and arrange words in lines meaningfully.</p> <p>8. You could give coloured paper for groups to write down their final draft.</p>
<p><b>Feedback</b> <b>5 mins</b></p>	<p>1. Ask students to exchange and read each other's poems. or</p> <p>2. Get students to stick their poems on the wall and ask students to walk around the class and read each other's poems. Ask students to vote on the poem they like the best.</p>
<p><b>Variations</b></p>	<p>1. You could ask students to write poems individually or in pairs in a stronger class.</p> <p>2. You could encourage students to write poems to make a class magazine.</p>