

KEY STAGE	AGE
KS1	5-7
KS2	7-11 ✓
KS3	11-14 ✓
KS4	14-16
KS5	16-18

AT A GLANCE
• GROUP POEMS
• JUXTAPOSITION
• USING NOUNS
• USING ADJECTIVES
• SOUND

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POETRYCLASS: FRESH IDEAS FOR POETRY LEARNING FROM THE POETRY SOCIETY

GREAT TITLE RANDOMISER

BY PHILIP GROSS

I use this activity to wake up the love and fun of language, and the way imagination grows from chance meetings of words. With some groups, you can talk about the surreal, and that particular thrill that comes from some irrational juxtapositions.

Getting started

Give out copies of the accompanying sheet. Point out the poet's tip and ask the class to write in the boxes for each of the categories: abstract nouns, adjectives and nouns for concrete things.

Then they should cut out the strips so that they have three piles of words (placed face down), one for each category. Ask them to pick one word at random from each pile to form the title of their poem, which should take the form 'The (abstract noun) of the (adjective) (noun)'.

Inspiring collaboration

You could do this as a whole-class activity, dividing the students into three groups, one group contributing words for each category. Ask each person to think back and remember the word in

their group that they found the most interesting/funny/haunting/unexpected/strange – the one that sticks in their head, for whatever reason.

Randomising titles

The three small groups line up. The first person from each comes to the front to meet each other... turns and speaks their title to the rest: 'The (abstract noun) of the (adjective) (noun)'. The students then write their poems, choosing one as a title. Encourage them to share their poems with the class.



GREAT TITLE RANDOMISER

1 Write a word in each box until you have 10 words for each category: abstract nouns (e.g. faith, worry), adjectives (e.g. sizzling, slimy) and nouns for concrete things (e.g. alligator, trombone).

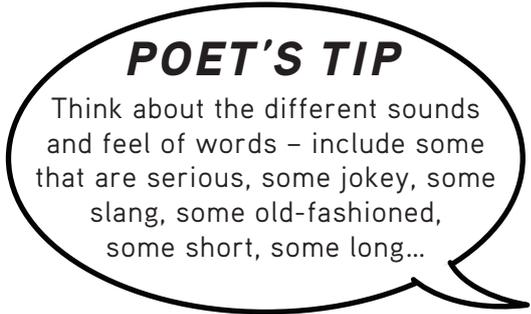
ABSTRACT NOUNS:

ADJECTIVES:

NOUNS FOR CONCRETE THINGS:

2 Now cut out the strips and put the words face down into piles, one for each category. Choose a word at random from each pile, until you have a title for your poem: 'The (abstract noun) of the (adjective) (noun)'.

3 Write your poem!



NAME: