

SLAM POETRY

What is it?

It's spoken word. Performance poetry, written with the intention of being performed.

How does it look?

Storytelling, romantic, confessions, hip hop rhythms, ANYTHING.

Writing it:

Write about your passions! Your experiences are what makes slam poetry come alive.

Use rich imagery!! This helps your audience to create vivid pictures in their head and thus connect to your poem.

Hook your audience! Have strong starters and closers to hook your audience and leave them wanting more.

Ditch words like "is" and "are."

Instead of: *There are a lot of people here who make me nervous; I hate it.*

Try: *The swarming crowd with perspiration glistening; discomfort on the rise.*

Try not to use predictable rhyming but rather use rhyming out of form (kind of all over the place. This helps to keep the audience interested).

Performing:

Who is speaking?

Practice! Try to memorize your poem.

Establish eye contact.

Use your body to exaggerate movements. This helps to communicate your story/message.

Project your voice!

AND BREATHE. You'll be okay!