



Reading #2: Poetry

-Natalie DC

Creative Writing Unit

Time: 2-3 Days

Grade Level: 11-12

Rough Calendar

** Remember this is a rough outline and can be easily shortened or lengthened ☺ **

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Day 1: Möbius Strip	Day 2: Writing and Reading				



Lesson Overview

- Introduction:
 - Anticipation Activity- Free Write Activity
- Reading:
 - Reading the Poem using different read through methods
 - First Impressions: Understanding the poem's purpose and just taking it in.
 - Big Ideas: Identify big ideas and any possible social issues that the poem evokes.
 - Literary Analysis: Mark, take note of, or otherwise notice literary devices. The purpose here is for students to engage with HOW the poem is constructed and creates its tone, purpose, message, themes, and situates itself within larger societal issues.
- Writing Activities:
 - Möbius Strip
 - Revisit, Revision and Reinvention

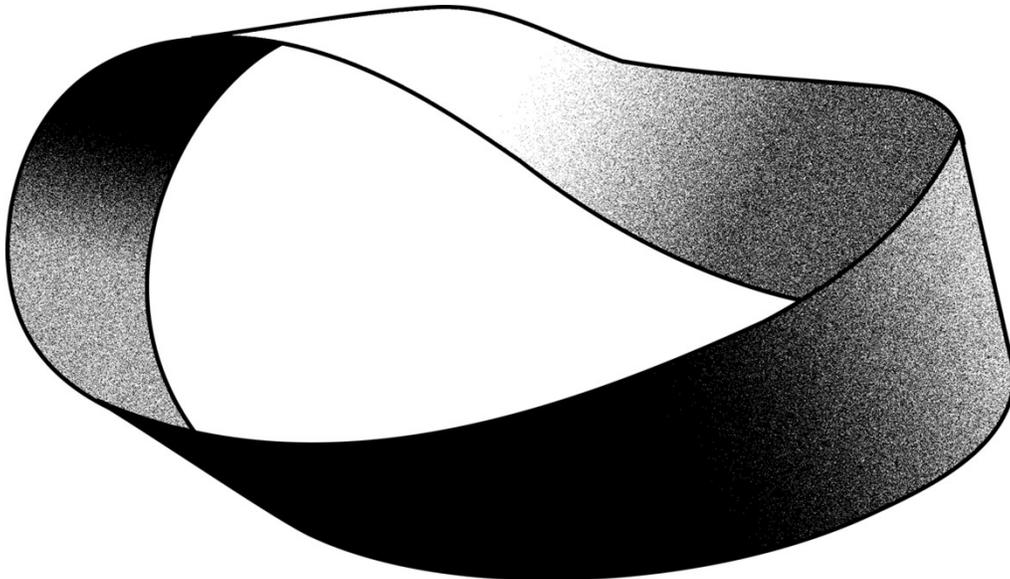


Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Creative Mini Project Making a Möbius Strip

Activity Directions: This assignment will require students to use their writing skills to create a visual representation of their inner and outer selves!

1. On a strip of paper, write on one side everything that people **KNOW** about you. These are **OBVIOUS** things people know about your identity. Things that you share readily with friends or acquaintance. Or they can be things people assume about you.
2. On the **OTHER** side, write things that people **DO NOT** know about you. These can be secrets or only things your closet friends would know about you. It may be only one thing.
 - These strips will be disposed of as soon as they are graded and will not be kept. If so requested, I will not read them.
3. Finally twist the ends together and secure it with a staple. You have now created your Möbius Strip



Bougainvillea

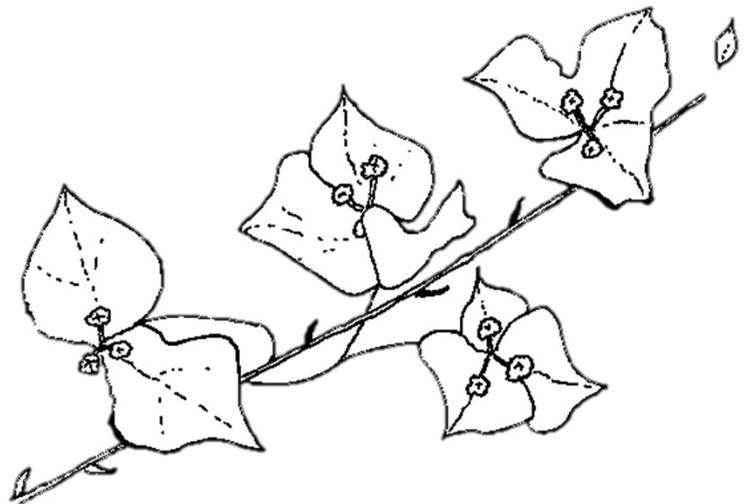
by Natalie DC

1 bougainvillea becomes me with
its shiny leaves and flamingo-tinted petals.
i feel them reaching through the cuts upon my knees;
their thorny bits

5 sprout from my scalp
jut from my gums,
pierce my skin,
and i think, *what did i ever do to deserve this?*
but it's the vine with its

10 pretty outside and
prickly insides
that *deserves* me, it would seem as i
tilt my neck back
and let the branches outstretch my

15 hand —
fingernails bitten down to the quick —
reaching for a future that only leaves me sick.



Active Reading Activities:

Teacher Directions

It's important for students to be exposed to readings through different reading lenses/activities. For the readings included in these lesson plans, there will be multiple diverse activities for read throughs.

Focus Objective:

Have students read the poem while completing the following tasks

BEFORE READING

- Task One: (Predictions)
 - What is the title of the poem?
 - Look at the title, what do you think it means? What feelings are associated with the title?
 - Make a prediction of what the poem might be about.

AFTER READING

- Task Two: (Summarize/Rephrase)
 - Summarize/paraphrase the poem in one sentence
 - What stood out the most in the poem?
- Task Three: (Narrator)
 - From what point of view is the poem being told?
 - Is the speaker a specific person or a narrator?
 - What does the speaker experience in the poem?
- Task Four: (Theme and Meaning)
 - What is the tone of the poem? Provide the key words that illustrate the tone.
 - Identify the topics of the poem
 - Identify a main theme of the poem.
 - What is the “big picture” of this poem? What is the main take-away?

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Writing Activity Revealing our Inner Selves

Activity Directions: This is a two-part writing assignment. The first half will be before the reading. The second half will take place after the reading and analysis.

Part One: Free-Write Prompt (Before Reading)

- What's the difference between your inner and outer self? Is there really a difference between the two parts of yourself?

Part Two: Return and Revision (After Reading)

- Reread "Bougainvillea" and consider why did the poet choose that plant to represent the destruction of the barrier between her inner and outer selves?
- Choose a similar metaphor for yourself. Then revisit your Free Write and incorporate a similar metaphor.

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