

Haiku

Haiku is a Japanese tradition of poetry, most often used to paint a scene of nature or to describe artwork with words using sensory and emotive images in an unrhymed, metered pattern:

Line 1 – 5 syllables

Line 2 – 7 syllables

Line 3 – 5 syllables

Example:

Yatsugatake

Mountains and flowers,
Communities connecting,
Two sides of one hand



Getting Started: To write a haiku, it helps to begin by creating a “word bank.” Write down words and phrases that answer the following questions and use your answers to make lines with the proper number of syllables. You will not use all the words in your word bank, and you will probably need to add others, but the word bank will get your poem started.

1. Name three things that you see in the artwork.
2. Name three colors or shapes that you notice.
3. Name the material used to create the artwork.
4. Name a sound you imagine while looking at the artwork.
5. Name something the artwork represents or symbolizes.
6. Name a feeling inspired by the artwork