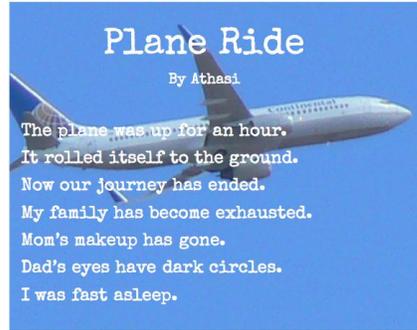
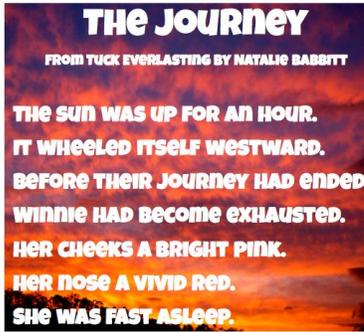


# Parallel Poetry



particularly powerful, moving, or interesting.

- In your SKETCHBOOK, make a list of the details, words and phrases you underlined or highlighted, keeping them in the order that you found them. Double space between lines so that the lines are easy to work with. Feel free to add others that you notice as you go through the prose piece again.
- Look back over your list and cut out everything that is dull, or unnecessary, or that just doesn't seem right for a poem. Try to cut your original list in half.
- As you look over the shortened list, think about the tone that the details and diction (WORD CHOICE) convey. The words should all relate to a feeling you're attempting to convey (mood). Make sure that you have words that communicate your emotions or those of the person in the prose text.
- Make any minor changes necessary to create your poem. You can change punctuation and make little changes to the words to make them fit together (such as change the tenses, possessives, plurals, and capitalizations).
- When you're close to an edited down version, if you absolutely need to add a word or two to make the poem flow more smoothly, to make sense, to make a point, you may add some (no more than  $\frac{1}{3}$ ) words of your own.
- Read back over your edited draft one more time and make any deletions or minor changes.
- Check the words and choose a title—is there a better title than “Found Poem”?
- Copy the words and phrases into a Google Doc. Space or arrange the words so that they're poem-like. Pay attention to line breaks, layout, and other elements that will emphasize important words or significant ideas in the poem.
  - Read aloud as you arrange the words! Test the possible line breaks by pausing slightly. If it sounds good, it's probably right.
  - Arrange the words so that they make a rhythm you like. You can space words out so that they are all alone or allruntogether.
  - You can also put key words on lines by themselves.
  - You can shape the entire poem so that it's wide or tall or shaped like an object (say a heart?).
  - Emphasize words by playing with boldface and italics, different sizes of letters, and so forth.
- At the bottom of the poem, tell where the words in the poem came from. For example, From *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen.

1. Select a passage from your novel selection that contains *vivid imagery* (*fig.lang/sensory detail*) you're reading. Make a copy. (Suggestion: Take a picture with your phone and save it to your Google Drive. Then you can print it at school OR copy at home or in school library OR hand copy it.) Carefully re-read the prose text you have chosen, and look for 50–100 words that stand out in the prose passage. Highlight or underline details, words and phrases that you find

## Sample Found Poem

### Prose Selections from Chang-rae Lee's "Coming Home, Again"

From that day, my mother prepared a certain meal to welcome me home. It was always the same. Even as I rode the school's shuttle bus from Exeter to Logan airport, I could already see the exact arrangement of my mother's table.

I knew that we would eat in the kitchen, the table brimming with plates. There was the *kalbi*, of course, broiled or grilled depending on the season. Leaf lettuce, to wrap the meat with. Bowls of garlicky clam broth with miso and tofu and fresh spinach. Shavings of cod dusted in flour and then dipped in egg wash and fried. Glass noodles with onions and shiitake. Scallion-and-hot-pepper pancakes. Chilled steamed shrimp. Seasoned salads of bean sprouts, spinach, and white radish. Crispy squares of seaweed. Steamed rice with barley and red beans. Homemade kimchi. It was all there—the old flavors I knew, the beautiful salt, the sweet, the excellent taste. (p. 5)

.....

I wish I had paid more attention. After her death, when my father and I were the only ones left in the house, drifting through the rooms like ghosts, I sometimes tried to make that meal for him. Though it was too much for two, I made each dish anyway, taking as much care as I could. But nothing turned out quite right—not the color, not the smell. At the table, neither of us said much of anything. And we had to eat the food for days. (p. 6)

You can find the full essay at [http://readwritethink.org/lesson\\_images/lesson998/ComingHomeAgain.pdf](http://readwritethink.org/lesson_images/lesson998/ComingHomeAgain.pdf)

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### Found Poem Based on the Prose Selection

My mother prepared  
A certain meal  
To welcome me home.  
We would eat in the kitchen  
Table brimming  
Kalbi, leaf lettuce to wrap the meat  
Garlicky clam broth with miso and tofu and fresh spinach  
Shavings of cod  
Scallion and pepper pancakes  
Chilled steamed shrimp  
Steamed rice.  
The old flavors I knew  
Beautiful, salt, sweet, excellent.  
I wish I had paid more attention.

Rubric Total \_\_\_\_\_ / 10 points

\_\_\_\_\_ / 6 pts. The writing process has been followed, i.e. prewriting, drafting, revising, proofing  
Imagery Book Passage due Nov. 5 Draft 1 due Nov. 7

\_\_\_\_\_ / 2 pts. The details and diction (WORD CHOICE) convey tone. The words should all relate to a feeling you're attempting to convey (mood).

\_\_\_\_\_ / 3 pts. The parallel poem contains a rhythm, i.e. rhyme, alternating stressed and unstressed syllables, alliteration, assonance, etc. See page 616-617

\_\_\_\_\_ / 2 pts. Line breaks, layout, and other elements, such as punctuation, emphasize important words or significant ideas in the poem. **PLEASE LEFT ALIGN.**

\_\_\_\_\_ / 2 pts. At the bottom of the poem, tell where the words in the poem came from. For example, From *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen.