

Hypertext Haiku Sample Instructions

Step 1: Definition.

Haikus are an ancient rhetorical form with specific guidelines for their construction. Find out what makes a haiku "haiku" with some online searching; find at least two sources and keep them open. Then, on a new wiki page, write your own definition of haiku based on what you learned; make two of the words of your definition into links to the sources you looked at. (How do I do this stuff?)

Step 2: Creation.

Using the definition you've created, write your own haiku on the wiki page you created (below your definition). If you like, assign one line of the haiku to each of your group members.

Step 3: Hypertextualization.

Once you've written your haiku, you need to link the words to various internet media. As many scholars, such as Derrida and Foucault, have argued, words have almost limitless meanings. "Apple" can mean the fruit, the computer, the thing that keeps the doctor away, teaching, America (in pie form), and on and on. Your hypertext links should either clarify or complicate the meaning of the words you've chosen for your poem. Keep in mind the holistic meaning of the poem that you intend and how you can use links to illustrate that meaning.

Guidelines:

- *Please provide at least one link for each word.
- *Please link to at least one photograph. Check out Flickr, Google Image Search, or Photobucket.
- *Please link to at least one video. Try YouTube or the Google Video Search.
- *Be creative! You can link to a Twitter feed for a definition that can constantly change, or a FaceBook page.
- *Be polite! Please keep your links appropriate for a classroom audience.

Step 4: Reflection.

Once you've written and linked your haiku, we'd like you to explore the process you went through in creating your hypertext haiku. On your haiku page, choose two of your linked words, and explain the choices you made to link the web content to your word. For each word answer the following questions:

- *What do you want this word to mean or suggest in your haiku?

*Briefly describe the web content this word links to.

*What meaning does the web content suggest for your word?

*How does the web content you've linked to change or reinforce the meaning of your poem?

In addition, we'd like you to read your classmates' poems and comment on their pages the answers to the following questions:

*What link surprised you the most? Why?

*What was your favorite link? Why?

*What did you think when you read the poem the first time?

*What did you think after you followed the links?

Step 5: Evaluation.

Our evaluation follows Cynthia Selfe's examples in *Writing New Media*. To download our form, [click here](#).

Note: *This document originally appears online in a wiki space set up by the instructors.*