

Prompt #1 Monologue from a Revenge Tragedy

In the style of Shakespeare, Marlow, Kyd and Webster, create a character, write a soliloquy in which the character vows revenge, and perform the soliloquy.

Constraints: Use Shakespearean language, or language reminiscent of Shakespeare, Marlow etc. The soliloquy should be in verse, but needn't rhyme unless desired. The character must be alone. The character must refer to a hated enemy who is offstage. 10 lines minimum. Example: 2-4 lines to mention what the enemy has done, 2-4 lines what the character would like to do, 2-4 lines to demonstrate a clear shift as the character decides what to do to avenge themselves (A la Hamlet's 'To be or not to be...' or Helena's 'How happy some o'er others...'), and 2-4 lines to wrap it up.

Intent: To utilize students' knowledge of Shakespearean language and literary forms in the creation of their own material.

Exemplar:

JULIENZA

O what a shifty pickle brain is this?

A slimy varlet gone and stole my peas

That stinking half wit good for nothing cur.

I'd like to stick a hat pin up his rear

Or beat some sense into his greasy pate

Yet courage fails me most in open war!

I will go to the kitchens late tonight

And steal his muffins while he rests asleep

A cunning move to make his belly growl

And satisfy my honour all in one

A fatal blow to hit his appetite,

My satisfaction now at last is won.

Prompt #2 Getting Creative With Shakespearean Insults

Using Midsummer Night's Dream Act 3 Scene 2 Lines 282-298, replace the existing insults with creations of your own.

In this scene from Midsummer Night's Dream, Helena and Hermia in the throes of a magic induced misunderstanding hurl insults at each other.

Constraints: In ten minutes, replace all the bolded insults with Shakespearean creations of your own. By using the charts provided combine one word from each of the three columns below.

Intent: To get students comfortable with using Shakespearean language.

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
artless	base-court	apple-john
bawdy	bat-fowling	baggage
beslubbering	beef-witted	barnacle
bootless	beetle-headed	bladder
churlish	boil-brained	boar-pig
cockered	clapper-clawed	bugbear
clouted	clay-brained	bum-bailey
craven	common-kissing	canker-blossom
currish	crook-pated	clack-dish
dankish	dismal-dreaming	clotpole
dissembling	dizzy-eyed	coxcomb
droning	doghearted	codpiece
errant	dread-bolted	death-token
fawning	earth-vexing	dewberry

fobbing	elf-skinned	flap-dragon
froward	fat-kidneyed	flax-wench
frothy	fen-sucked	flirt-gill
gleeking	flap-mouthed	foot-licker
goatish	fly-bitten	fustilarian
gorbellied	folly-fallen	giglet
impertinent	fool-born	gudgeon
infectious	full-gorged	haggard
jarring	guts-gripping	harpy
loggerheaded	half-faced	hedge-pig
lumpish	hasty-witted	horn-beast
mammering	hedge-born	hugger-mugger
mangled	hell-hated	joithead
mewling	idle-headed	lewdster
paunchy	ill-breeding	lout
pribbling	ill-nurtured	maggot-pie
puking	knotty-pated	malt-worm
puny	milk-livered	mammet
qualling	motley-minded	measle
rank	onion-eyed	minnow
reeky	plume-plucked	miscreant
roguish	pottle-deep	moldwarp
ruttish	pox-marked	mumble-news
saucy	reeling-ripe	nut-hook
spleeny	rough-hewn	pigeon-egg
spongy	rude-growing	pignut
surly	rump-fed	puttock
tottering	shard-borne	pumpion
unmuzzled	sheep-biting	ratsbane

vain	spur-galled	scut
venomed	swag-bellied	skainsmate
villainous	tardy-gaited	strumpet
warped	tickle-brained	varlot
wayward	toad-spotted	vassal
weedy	unchin-snouted	whey-face
yeasty	weather-bitten	wagtail

Original:

HERMIA

O me, you **juggler**, you **canker-blossom**,

You **thief of love!** What, have you come by night

And stol'n my love's heart from him?

HELENA

Fine, i' faith!

Have you no modesty, no maiden shame,

No touch of bashfulness? What, will you tear

Impatient answers from my gentle tongue?

Fie, fie, you **counterfeit**, you **puppet**, you!

HERMIA

“**Puppet**”? Why so? Ay, that way goes the game.

Now I perceive that she hath made compare

Between our statures: she hath urg'd her height,

And with her personage, her tall personage,

Her height, forsooth, she hath prevail'd with him.

And are you grown so high in his esteem,
Because I am so dwarfish and so low?
How low am I, **thou painted maypole**? Speak!
How low am I? I am not yet so low
But that my nails can reach unto thine eyes.

Exemplar:

HERMIA

O me, you **yeasty beef witted pig nut**, you **spongy clay-brained canker-blossom**,
You **lumpish knotty pated-strumpet**! What, have you come by night
And stol'n my love's heart from him?

HELENA

Fine, i' faith!

Have you no modesty, no maiden shame,
No touch of bashfulness? What, will you tear
Impatient answers from my gentle tongue?

Fie, fie, you **frothy half-faced harpy**, you **goatish clapper-clawed measle**, you!

HERMIA

“**measle**”? Why so? Ay, that way goes the game.

Now I perceive that she hath made compare
Between our statures: she hath urg'd her height,
And with her personage, her tall personage,
Her height, forsooth, she hath prevail'd with him.

And are you grown so high in his esteem,

Because I am so dwarfish and so low?

How low am I, **thou rank sheep-biting codpiece?** Speak!

How low am I? I am not yet so low

But that my nails can reach unto thine eyes.

Prompt# 3 Cultural Fluency Language Assessment Tool Playtime

Create a piece of writing using the CFLAT handout.

Constraints: In forty five minutes, incorporate at least 20 language features from the CFLAT handout below into a piece of writing. **Use all language features for an extra challenge.

Intent: To familiarize and grow the student's comfort level with various language features.

LANGUAGE FEATURE	EXAMPLES
1. Orientation	
a. Partitive expression	book of angels history of education
b. Multiword prepositions	alongside, without, on top of
c. Prepositional Verbs	bring up, log on, pig out, come to
d. Phrasal Verbs	throw away piece together, plug up
e. Prepositional Phrases	
i) Temporal (when)	in the morning, throughout
ii) Spatial (where)	in the kitchen, over the garage
iii) Agentitive (who)	by himself, by the younger sister
iv) Methodological (how)	with blue paint, along one edge
2. Collocations	
a. noun and noun	brain child, piece meal, lightening rod
b. verb and (article/pronoun) noun	having a blast, knowing your place,
c. adverb and adjective and noun	newly-minted coin, slowly brewed tea
d. adjective and verb and noun	home-cooked meal, newborn baby
e. noun and adjective	bone dry, wine dark, rock solid
f. gerund and noun	walking stick, baking tin, wedding party

3. Description

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| a. Adjective sequences | quick-witted, smiling, old man |
| b. Comparative/superlative structures | more...than, better than, the least |
| c. 2 nd state adjectives
nominal descriptors | typical, brutish, foolish, flamboyant |
| d. 3 rd state adjectives
Nominalizations of verbs | reactionary, emotional, indispensable |
| e. relative clauses | the clauses that... |

4. Modification

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| a. Quadrasyllabic intensifiers | actually, severally, responsibly |
| b. Pentasyllabic intensifiers | realistically, chaotically, exceptionally |
| c. Sentence adverbs | |
| i) cause – result | because, due to, as a result of, in order to |
| ii) addition | besides, furthermore, in addition |
| iii) concession | however, nevertheless, yet, despite |

5. Nominalization

- | | |
|--|---|
| a. Generic subject w/out article or p.n. | Life is... Wool keeps...Psychoses are |
| b. Generic nominalization | Insubordination, plasticity, indisposeability |
| c. Generic pronouns | nowhere, everyone, somewhat, anyhow |

6. Elaboration

- | | |
|---|--|
| a. Question words as clause subordinators | where, why, how, when, what, whose |
| b. Causative verbs | She made/had/let us do the test |
| c. Verbs in passive aspect | He had the mail delivered by horse |
| d. Sarcasm in the negative expression | He's not the most intelligent of men. |
| e. Conditional sentences | If..., Suppose he were, I wish... |
| f. Concurrent actions | While, during our visit, since he had left |
| g. Reported speech | He said "I will be going home." |

h. Simile

like a rolling stone, hungry as a hippo

i. Metaphor

That man is a pig, you are my sunshine

Exemplar:

"Peripatetic," Father says shuffling, shifting side-to-side nervously. "It means to walk slowly, thinking of weighty matters, in bare feet."

He points to my feet, a smile cracking the weathered corners of his face; his mouth like an orange slice, bent in tentative sweetness.

I giggle.

His tome of Shakespeare lies in the corner, well-loved, shoes and suitcase next to the eggshell white string, slowly unravelled strands lovingly coiled, a memory haven helping me piece together a life. Homespun wedding dress forgotten, all that's left is the ring, warm circle of metal on my heartstring highway, more than significant, not without a flash of recognition.

Three stubborn, stoic grey stones in the cavern throughout time. Along the edges of sanity they sit by themselves and watch me in order to control. Non-emotional, reactionary guardians who always disapprove. Responsibly waiting, existing.

"THAT IS NOT ALLOWED."

Nevertheless, I dance. Furthermore, I sing. (Though I'm not a very good singer).

Life is no more.

(She is what we call, 'subversive'.)

Prompt # 4 Register Shifting

Take a formal document, and register shift it down into informal language.

Constraints: In 30 minutes, take a formal document either of your own, or an example you find on the internet (i.e an official letter or other piece of writing), and register shift down to colloquial form.

Intent: To gain a better understanding of formal register by applying informal language while maintaining the original message.

Exemplar:

Robert Boberson
808 Bobber Street,
Bobtown BC,
B2B4B6

Dear Robert Boberson

I am in receipt of your letter of June 10, 1998. Although I am honoured by the privilege, I respectfully request that I be excused from jury duty.

I am currently employed by BBB International Incorporated of Bobtown. As a small firm, my employer will be unable to pay me during my absence for jury duty. Simply stated, my financial position will be severely affected as a result. I will be able to forward a statement from my employer if you so require.

I trust that you understand my position and excuse me, thus, from jury duty. You may contact me at 888-8888 if there are any concerns.

Sincerely,

Belinda Bloom

Wassup Bobby?

Got ur message. Nice of u to think of me but I can't come bro. Sadface. :(:(:(

Work doesn't pay me shit to go take down some asshole in court. (Srsly. I'm broke as shit right now, u feel me?)

U got my deets if u need to call.

Brunch soon?

Ciao,

Bel

Prompt # 5 Spam Cut Up Poetry

Using the piece of spam provided, create your own poem by blocking out letters or whole words.

Constraints: In 30 minutes using the spam provided, block out words or letters in sequence left to right. You may add punctuation as you see fit. You may repeat one phrase once. You may not use a word more than the number of times it appears in the article.

Intent: To provide a platform to facilitate creative writing for the student

Exemplar:

From still door to red harm

via

(one)

Wish.

The tired one;

these prickly epochs spring.

Gold may be stars.

Intrigues,

and present time.

To retreat is impossible.

To retreat. Is impossible.

Restore vivacity,

Equality,

Wonder.

Keep soft the notion of violence.

I angrily care:

That Prince,

who long have I loved.

Prompt# 6 Cubic Poem

Write a poem.

Constraints: Utilize 27 words. They may only be words that are simultaneously nouns and verbs. The student may add -s -ing or -ed, and punctuation as they see fit. 30 minutes to complete.

Intent: To familiarize students with the concept of words having multiple uses.

Exemplar:

Fry pan fries. Loom loon swings bottle. Drinks sweat. Google phone screen. Signs. Drive bus trip. Dog doctors? Play, stage, act, club, drool, pant! Wire. Park. Cuff.

Prompt# 7 Alliterative Ambitions

Write 10 sentences using alliteration. Read out your sentences to the class.

Constraints: 30 minutes. Use a different letter of the alphabet for each sentence.

Minimum 4 words per line. Each line must make sense, however the lines do not have to make sense with each other unless the student wants the extension challenge.

Intent: Inspires creative thinking and exploration of sounds in language.

Exemplar:

Onions often originate organically.

Allison agitated assiduously after awakening alone.

Earth-tones exceptionally enhanced Elle's elfin earlobes.

Tom toiled tremendously to take Tilly to tea.

Gertrude gained gratitude greeting gallivanting goblins.

Herman heard hushed heretical hearsay.

Silvia sent six sweet scented soaps speedily south.

Massive mammaries made Max mortified.

Zachary zipped zesty zig-zagging zebras.

Drunkenly, Damien dreaded dank dark dungeons.

Prompt# 8 Vowel Short Story

Using words that contain only one vowel, write a short story.

Constraints: In 30 minutes, write a short story. The short story must be at least 5 sentences long, it must make sense, and words may only use one type of vowel. For example, if the vowel "e" is chosen, the only vowel allowed in the paragraph in any capacity is "e". "Y" is also acceptable.

Intent: To expand creativity and gain a deeper understanding of vowel sounds.

Exemplar:

Elle etches egrets sleekly fed.

The Greek men respect her.

Her helpers help erect shelters helter skelter.

She detects pretence; serves effervescent refreshments.

Shrewdly, Elle prefers secret sweet scenes.

Tenderly, she sheds her red dress.

Prompt# 9 Six-Word Story

Create a six word story.

Constraints: In 5 minutes, using only 6 words, create a coherent story.

Intent: Students will discover what constitutes a story, and how to create meaning in so few words.

Exemplar:

Painfully, she changed 'Mrs' to 'Ms'.

Prompt# 10 Haikus

Write four Haikus. One for each season.

Constraints: 3 lines and 17 syllables following the 5-7-5 pattern associated with haiku.

Do not include the name of the season in the corresponding haiku: e.g Summer.

Intent: Students will display their understanding of Haiku structure.

Exemplar:

New life emerges.

Frost gives way to greenery.

Sunshine lends it's warmth.

Heat dances on skin.

Slathered coconut lotion.

Pina colada.

Orange crunch brisk wind.

Floating down from gnarled branches.

Decomposition.

Icy cold shiver.

Briskly white on stoic trees.

Softly falling snow.