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Prompt # 1:

**Constraints:**

**Content:** No content restraints are formally required. It is suggested that the poem is descriptive.

**Formal:** Use at least 8 of the most creative partitive expressions that you can (use a corpus to find them e.g., <http://corpus.byu.edu/coca/>). Challenge yourself to use non-count nouns from every category of the included student worksheet on partitive expressions (groups, liquids, solids and semi-solids, gasses, things that occur in nature, and abstractions).

**Context:** Written at at home or in class within an expected time of 30 minutes.

**A scribble of spirit**

On the savannah of my mind I espy  
The antelope of poetry  
In waves of grass tawny.

Through a wilderness of scenery I peer  
And from the latticework of my grammar I wade  
Into moon-shades of beauty unknown.

Perhaps chasms of confusion will befall me  
Out in the ripples of darkness  
Or perhaps an enclave of knowledge awaits  
Abounding spells of light untold.

For now I will rest at the wellspring of courage  
And find my way again on a morn of understanding.

Prompt #2:

**Constraints:**

**Content:** No content restraints are formally required, but it is suggested that the formal constraints are accomplished within a descriptive poem. Suggestions include describing an abstract aspect of yourself or something more concrete such as a city landscape.

**Formal:** Use 8 of the most creative prepositions you can (refer to the prepositions list provided). Challenge yourself to use one from each category.

**Context:** Written at at home or in class within an expected time of 30 minutes.

**Madness**

Neath lakes of stars

Mong a wilderness of water,  
 Anear fountains of death  
 But nearer stench of life  
 A sanity unlike most  
 Finds amusement behither  
 Pages and pages of thought.

In lieu of frustration  
 and in place of desire  
 In spite of friendship  
 and on behalf of understanding  
 On top of the world it writhes.

Prompt # 3:

**Constraints:**

**Content:** Brainstorm at least 10 verbs in the continuous tense and 10 nouns. Try writing down the first ones that come to mind. Pair them off to create at least 5 gerund-noun collocations and then define the resulting combinations.

**Formal:** Write zany definitions for the 5 collocations you create.

**Context:** Written at at home or in class within an expected time of 25 minutes.

**Brainstorm:**

Verbs	Nouns	Collocation Combinations
drawing	hand	
running	stick	running wall
sleeping	wall	
dozing	fork	dozing table
doing	switch	
pleasing	light	pleasing switch
pacing	glass	
fencing	pane	
arming	projector	arming stick
circling	table	circling hand

**Running wall:** a wall up which competitors run as far as they can until plummeting back to earth.

**Dozing table:** a table at which students are given free reign to induce sleep in order to inspire and refresh themselves.

**Pleasing switch:** a mind-manipulation device created in the year 2099 to help students please their parents.

**Arming stick:** a mythical shillelagh required by US Presidents to arm the nuclear warheads.

**Circling hand:** the name given to the preferred hand of professional circle drawers.

Prompt # 4:

### **Constraints:**

#### **Content:**

**Formal:** Write a run-on sentence that contains at least 8 subordinators — use the list provided. When finished break the sentence into more manageable sentences that convey the same thing more clearly. (Challenge yourself to include one from each category of “time, place, reason, manner, contrast, condition, purpose, result” on the list of subordinators provided).

**Context:** Written at home or in class within an expected time of 25 minutes.

Considering that Mr. Jenkins is still sick after having eaten 50 hard-boiled eggs seasoned howsoever he chose in the same place as he did the year before despite the fact that he had such terrible diarrhea no matter what anyone said as though he were deaf to their protests, I'd like his leftover eggs before they go bad.

Mr. Jenkins is still sick so I'd like his leftover eggs before they go bad.

He ate 50 hard-boiled eggs seasoned the way he liked them in the same place as he did the year before.

He ignored the fact that he had such terrible diarrhea on that occasion and he also ignored anything that anyone said to stop him.

Prompt # 5:

**Content:** none

**Formal:** Write a list of 8 nouns and three adjectives that describe them. Choose 5 of the word strings you created and find alternative words for both the nouns and their three adjectives in a thesaurus. Choose the most fitting words from either the original list or their alternatives from the thesaurus and organize the adjectives before the noun to create a descriptive phrase. Experiment with turning some of the adjectives into adverbs. If any of the phrases sounds strange, re-write a more appropriate sounding version below it. Create 5 noun-phrases that are preceded by descriptive adjectives and adverbs.

**Context:** Written at home or inside a computer lab within an expected time of 25 minutes.

Noun	Adjectives		
horse	muscular	fast	friendly
<b>buggy</b>	wooden	covered	uncomfortable
<i>rig</i>	<i>ligneous</i>	<i>overlaid</i>	<i>confining</i>
<b>claw</b>	sharp	pointed	dangerous
<i>talon</i>	<i>razor-edged</i>	<i>conical</i>	<i>threatening</i>
coffee	black	fragrant	necessary
line	long	narrow	2-D
<b>thought</b>	strong	vivid	striking
<i>consideration</i>	forceful	<i>graphic</i>	<i>astonishing</i>
<b>desire</b>	sudden	sensuous	intense
<i>yearning</i>	<i>abrupt</i>	<i>erotic</i>	<i>fierce</i>
<b>hatred</b>	vehement	sordid	crippling
<i>revulsion</i>	<i>fervent</i>	<i>degenerate</i>	<i>devestating</i>

- 1) confining, overlaid, ligneous rig  
An confining, covered wooden buggy
- 2) Threateningly pointed, razor-edged talons  
Threatening razor-edged talons
- 3) An astonishingly forceful graphic thought.
- 4) An abrupt, fiercely erotic yearning
- 5) A fervent, devastating, degenerate revulsion  
A devastatingly fervent hatred

Prompt # 6

**Content:** none.

**Formal:** Choose 10 intransitive verbs (from the intransitive verb sheet provided) and list them. Write a poem or paragraph in which the only verbs are intransitive verbs. Feel free to substitute new intransitive verbs that come to mind. Hint: subordinators of time are the easy to work with. Use at least 5 intransitive verbs and 5 subordinators (from the subordinators sheet provided).

**Context:** Written in class or at home within an expected time of 25 minutes.

Intransitive Verbs:

<b>fight</b>	inquire	die	<b>belong</b>	<b>agree</b>
<b>vanish</b>	<b>appear</b>	vomit	wash	write

In the middle of the night,  
leprechauns fight  
whenever unicorns appear  
before the morning light.

Unless you agree,  
They all belong to me,  
They vanish if I choose.

Prompt # 7:

**Content:** Describe a sequence of events.

**Formal:** Include at least 5 correlative subordinators (from the subordinators sheet provided).

**Context:** Written in class or at home within an expected time of 25 minutes.

Scarcely had I awoken when my stomach began to rumble such that I could hardly make it down the stairs. The more I thought about food the more I doubled over in pain, so I made toast. Whether I had made the right decision for breakfast or created another problem for myself I wouldn't know for several hours. In the end, no sooner had I gotten to school than I was hungry again.

Prompt # 8:

**Content:** none.

**Formal:** Write a simple sentence and precede the sentence with at least 5 prepositions that use the “Preposition + (article) + noun + preposition” format (see the prepositions sheet provided).

**Context:** Written in class or at home within an expected time of 10 minutes.

At the behest of myself, by the means of my legs, for the sake of my health, in accordance to the law, and in order to get where I am going, I run.

Prompt # 9:

**Content:** You find yourself in strange a dream in which reality has been altered. Describe what you see.

**Formal:** Imagine you are somewhere normal. Look around your imaginary setting and note 6 nouns, their colour and 1 descriptive adjective about them. Find replacement nouns, colours, and adjectives using a thesaurus and craft descriptive phrases. Now describe your surroundings using 3-4 synonyms for the word “see” making sure to include all 6 phrases (also found using a thesaurus). Below your description copy and paste the dictionary definitions of at least 5 words that you are unfamiliar with provided there are any (feel free to include all of them).

**Context:** Written in class or at home within an expected time of 30 minutes.

Noun	Colour	Adjective
grass	green	lushious
<b>sod</b>	<b>viridescent</b>	<b>succulent</b>
barn	white and red	sturdy
<b>stable</b>	<b>bleached and fulvous</b>	<b>husky</b>
fence	white	square
<b>barricade</b>	<b>unpigmented</b>	<b>oblong</b>
sky	blue	beautiful
<b>empyrean</b>	<b>sapphire</b>	<b>ravishing</b>
clouds	white	puffy
<b>mantle</b>	<b>ivory</b>	<b>tumescent</b>
forest	green and brown	rustling
<b>jungle</b>	<b>lime and coffee-coloured</b>	<b>swooshing</b>

I survey an unpigmented oblong barricade atop succulent viridescent sod. In the distance I behold a husky, bleached and fulvous coloured stable beneath a ravishing sapphire empyrean in which I spy tumescent ivory mantles. Behind the stable I view a swooshing lime and coffee-coloured jungle.

Viridescent: greenish or becoming green.

Fulvous: reddish yellow; tawny.

- Tawny: of an orange-brown or yellowish-brown colour.

Oblong: having an elongated shape, as a rectangle or an oval.

Empyrean: heaven, in particular the highest part of heaven.

Mantle: a loose sleeveless cloak or shawl, worn especially by women.

Tumescant: swollen or becoming swollen, especially as a response to sexual arousal.

Prompt # 10:

**Content:** None

**Formal:** Write a single sentence that employs at least 5 causative verbs (From the verb sheet provided). If you're having trouble then follow the generic formula in which a causative verb is followed by a direct object and an infinitive.

**Context:** Written in class in 10-15 minutes.

Don't make me allow him to cause her to help them let you two go to the party.