

## **Poetry Burst, session outline** [20 minutes]

### Introduction [2 minutes]

This is a short introduction to get you thinking about poetry written in response to WWI and to help you start developing your own ideas.

Two questions –

Why should we study WWI poetry?

Why would people today write poetry about WWI?

### Reflection [2 minutes]

Building on what you've seen and have been thinking about during your exploration of the war, choose a single object from WWI.

We would like you to reflect on the object and write down some ideas related to it. We have given you some questions to get you thinking. [PoetryBurstQuestions PDF]

### Writing [3 minutes]

You now have 3 minutes to pick up your pens and write down any words, phrases, and ideas that come to mind in response to the object.

### Sorcha's response [3 minutes]

I looked at this object and wrote down these words in response to a piece of shrapnel.

I then tried to write two lines of poetry to sum up some of these ideas, to share what I thought and felt about the object. (Note how even as I was writing, I was editing, changing. Once you have your ideas you will probably rewrite them until you have the lines you are happy with.) [SorchaResponse PDF]

### Poetry writing [5 minutes]

Working alone, try and draft two lines of poetry using the ideas you wrote down earlier.

Remember, poetry doesn't have to rhyme, or even make 100% sense! It is a creative, expressive response that doesn't always conform to the usual rules of English writing.

### Sharing [2 minutes]

Share your ideas with the person next to you. Try and give constructive feedback, perhaps saying what you liked, any ideas on what you would do differently.

### Re-working [3 minutes]

If you want to make any changes or improvements, use this time to do this.

[This is just a burst to inspire your pupils and get them writing. Hopefully they will be keen to work up their poems. If your pupils would like to submit any of their work to our blog, get in contact at: [richmondwwi@outlook.com](mailto:richmondwwi@outlook.com)]