Writing Simple Poems
CAMBRIDGE HANDBOOKS FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS

This is a series of practical guides for teachers of English and other languages. Illustrative examples are usually drawn from the field of English as a foreign or second language, but the ideas and techniques described can equally well be used in the teaching of any language.

In this series:

Drama Techniques in Language Learning – A resource book of communication activities for language teachers by Alan Maley and Alan Duff
Games for Language Learning by Andrew Wright, David Betteridge, and Michael Buckby
Discussions That Work – Task-centered fluency practice by Penny Ur
Once Upon a Time – Using stories in the language classroom by John Morgan and Mario Rinvolucri
Teaching Listening Comprehension by Penny Ur
Keep Talking – Communicative fluency activities for language teaching by Friederike Klippel
Working with Words – A guide to teaching and learning vocabulary by Ruth Gairns and Stuart Redman
Learner English – A teacher’s guide to interference and other problems edited by Michael Swan and Bernard Smith
Testing Spoken Language – A handbook of oral testing techniques by Nic Underhill
Literature in the Language Classroom – A resource book of ideas and activities by Joanne Collie and Stephen Slater
Dictation – New methods, new possibilities by Paul Davis and Mario Rinvolucri
Grammar Practice Activities – A practical guide for teachers by Penny Ur
Testing for Language Teachers by Arthur Hughes
Pictures for Language Learning by Andrew Wright
Five-Minute Activities – A resource book of short activities by Penny Ur and Andrew Wright
The Standby Book – Activities for the language classroom edited by Seth Lindstromberg
Lessons from Nothing – Activities for language teaching with limited time and resources by Bruce Marsland
Beginning to Write – Writing Activities for Elementary and Intermediate Learners by Arthur Brookes and Peter Gundy
Ways of Doing – Students Explore Their Everyday and Classroom Processes by Paul Davis, Barbara Garside, and Mario Rinvolucri
Using Newspapers in the Classroom by Paul Sanderson
Teaching Adult Second Language Learners by Heather McKay and Abigail Tom
Teaching English Spelling – A practical guide by Ruth Shemesh and Sheila Waller
Using Folktales – by Eric Taylor
Personalizing Language Learning – Personalized language learning activities by Griff Griffiths and Kathryn Keohane
Teach Business English – A comprehensive introduction to business English by Sylvie Donna
Learner Autonomy – A guide to activities which encourage learner responsibility by Ágota Scharle and Anita Szabó
The Internet and the Language Classroom – Practical classroom activities and projects by Gavin Dudeney
Using the Board in the Language Classroom by Jeannine Dobbs
Writing Simple Poems – Pattern poetry for language acquisition by Vicki L. Holmes and Margaret R. Moulton
Writing Simple Poems

Pattern Poetry for Language Acquisition

Vicki L. Holmes

and

Margaret R. Moulton
# Contents

Acknowledgments vii

Introduction 1

1 Acrostic 15
2 Adjective poem 21
3 Adjective placement poem 25
4 Adverb poem 32
5 Alphabet poem 38
6 Beginnings and endings poem 47
7 Biopoem 51
8 Blotz poem 57
9 Catalog poem 63
10 Cinquain 67
11 Color metaphor poem 71
12 Contrast poem 78
13 Countdown poem 83
14 Days-of-the-week poem 88
15 Diamante 94
16 Five senses poem 99
17 Haiku 104
18 Hero poem 108
19 “I am” poem 112
20 “I like” poem 119
21 “I wish” poem 123
22 Phrase poem 128
Contents

23 Preposition poem 133
24 Simile poem 138
25 Who-what-where-when-why-how poem 144
Glossary 149
Index 153