

# Brainstorming with all five senses

Haiku are poems that are word pictures in 3 lines. Their sound pattern is usually (but not always) like this:

Short (5 syllables)

Longer (7 syllables)

Short (5 syllables)

A haiku poem always tells us about a season and about a sensory experience.

.....

A mountain village  
under the piled-up snow  
the sound of water.

Night; and once again,  
while I wait for you, cold wind  
turns into rain.

– *Masaoka Shiki (1867-1902)*

.....

From across the lake,  
Past the black winter trees,  
Faint sounds of a flute.

The barking of dogs  
Is deepening the yellow  
Of the sunflowers.

– *Richard Wright (1908-1960)*

Now it's your turn to try it! Use a photo of Portland Japanese Garden to start brainstorming five senses vocabulary descriptive words: sight, sound, touch, taste, and smell. Make sure that for each of the five senses you describe something that tells about the season.

Brainstorm your words here. Write them down as soon as they come into your mind! Then cross out any words that repeat or do not give a clear image.



1. Write out the sentence in three lines like a haiku. Count the syllables in each line. Play with the syllable count and word choice to match the haiku form.

2. Write the final copy here:

Line 1: (5 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

Line 2: (7 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

Line 3: (5 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_