

R|A|M

How to Create Blackout Poetry

Blackout poetry is the creation of a unique written piece from part of an existing book, magazine, article, or newspaper. This process redacts certain words from the existing text to create a new piece of poetry by displaying the chosen words and blocking out the rest. Take your creation a step further and incorporate designs and details to compliment your blackout poetry.

Supplies

- Book page, newspaper, article, song lyrics, existing poems —anything with text!
- Black permanent marker
- Pencil

Instructions

1. Find a newspaper article, old book, or magazine that you are able to alter.
2. Skim the passage and keep your eyes out for words that grab your attention or work together to create a theme for the poem.
3. Use the pencil to circle the words that stand out.
4. Read through the poem a few times to ensure it makes sense and is cohesive.
5. Use the black marker to cross out all the words that have not been circled. Do this slowly so as to not accidentally blackout the incorrect word.

6. Add designs and details on the edging of the page or blank areas around the text to compliment the theme of your blackout poetry.

