

BLACKOUT POETRY INSTRUCTIONS

MATERIALS

Copies of the book page on the back of this handout

Pencils

Black markers, sharpies, or pens

STEP 1

Skim the book page on the back of this handout. Pick some words that catch your eye and stand out to you as meaningful or interesting. Draw a clear box around each of these words in pencil.

STEP 2

Look again for any other words you might need. Search for smaller words to connect the words you already boxed. In pencil, draw a box around any other words you want in your poem.

STEP 3

With sharpie or marker, color over all of the words except the ones you put in boxes. Your new poem should now stand out against a black background.

STEP 4

Read and share your original Blackout Poems!

FUN ALTERNATIVES

Try it again using pages torn out of a discarded book, magazine, or newspaper!

Add creative doodles, shapes, or textures before blacking out the rest of the words (see example).

