

**Entries to be submitted to
your English teacher by 26th
of April**

Poetry Writing Competition



“Gratitude”

In times like these, it is more important than ever to focus on what we are grateful for and to have appreciation for the small things in life. It is also essential that we continue to stay in touch and share experiences with our school community.

This is why the English department are challenging you to write a poem with the theme of ‘gratitude’. There will be prizes for winning poems and with enough entries we hope to create a poetry anthology to share.

To help you begin, we have given three suggestions of how to structure your poem- take a look at the finer details below. To start, why not write a long list of all the things you are grateful for? Happy writing!

A:

This poem lists things we should be thankful for and why. Imitate its style by including in each stanza one thing we should be grateful for, and the reason why.

e.g.

Be thankful that.....

because.....

B:

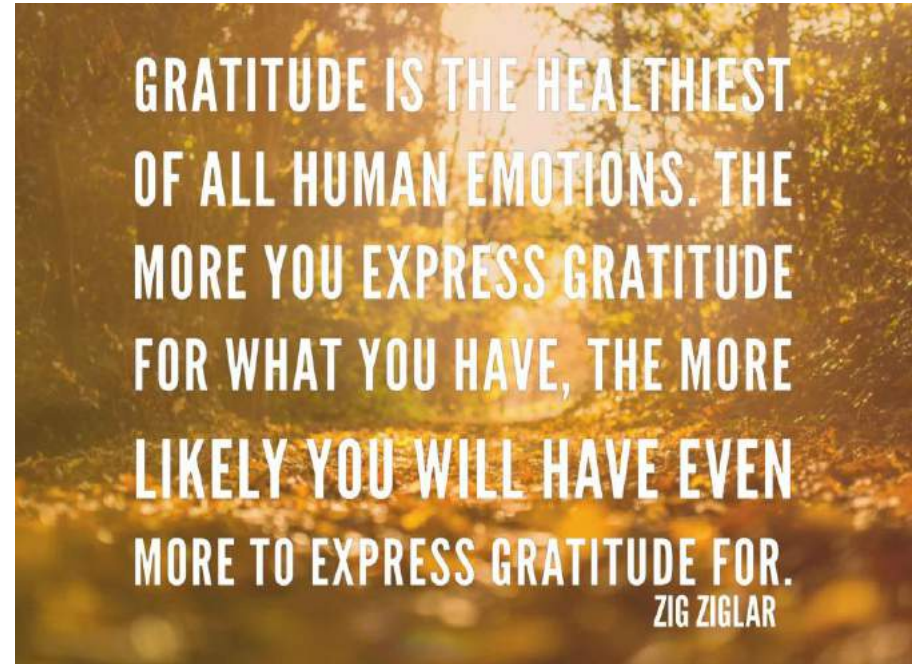
Write a poem about one single thing you are grateful for. This poet has chosen butter- and has described all the happy connotations and memories they have of it. Choose an item of food (or any other small, normal object!) and try to write 25 lines of everything it means to you. This poem has a free structure but add a rhyme if you like.

C:

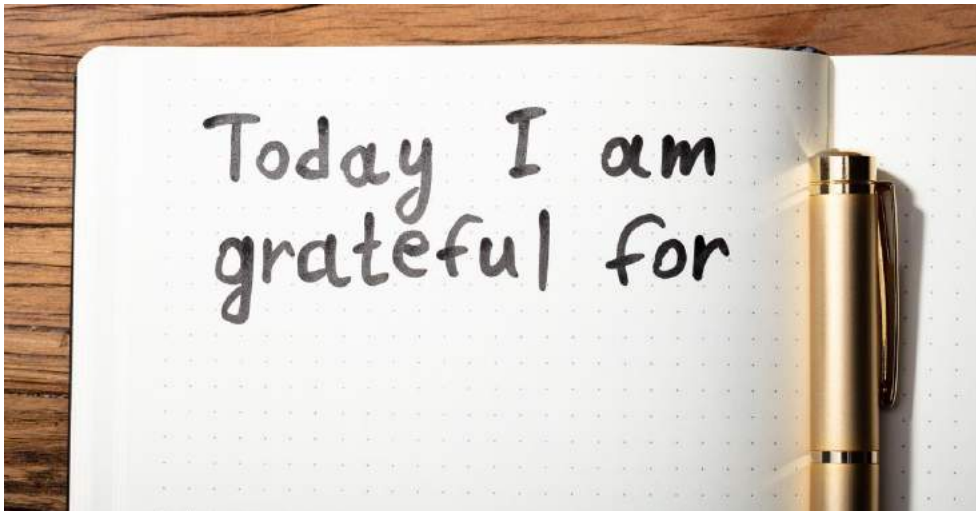
Create an acrostic poem for the word ‘gratitude’ about all the things you are grateful for!



gratitude:



GRATITUDE IS THE HEALTHIEST
OF ALL HUMAN EMOTIONS. THE
MORE YOU EXPRESS GRATITUDE
FOR WHAT YOU HAVE, THE MORE
LIKELY YOU WILL HAVE EVEN
MORE TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE FOR.
ZIG ZIGLAR



Today I am
grateful for

Be Thankful by Anonymous

Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire.
If you did, what would there be to look forward to?

Be thankful when you don't know something,
for it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times.
During those times you grow.

Be thankful for your limitations,
because they give you opportunities for improvement.

Be thankful for each new challenge,
because it will build your strength and character.

Be thankful for your mistakes.
They will teach you valuable lessons.

Be thankful when you're tired and weary,
because it means you've made a difference.

It's easy to be thankful for the good things.
A life of rich fulfilment comes to those who
are also thankful for the setbacks.

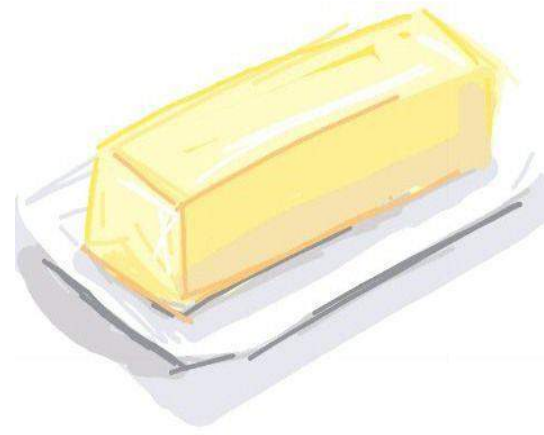
Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive.
Find a way to be thankful for your troubles,
and they can become your blessings.



Butter

By Elizabeth Alexander

My mother loves butter more than I do,
more than anyone. She pulls chunks off
the stick and eats it plain, explaining
cream spun around into butter! Growing up
we ate turkey cutlets sauteed in lemon
and butter, butter and cheese on green noodles,
butter melting in small pools in the hearts
of Yorkshire puddings, butter better
than gravy staining white rice yellow,
butter glazing corn in slipping squares,
butter the lava in white volcanoes
of hominy grits, butter softening
in a white bowl to be creamed with white
sugar, butter disappearing into
whipped sweet potatoes, with pineapple,
butter melted and curdy to pour
over pancakes, butter licked off the plate
with warm Alaga syrup. When I picture
the good old days I am grinning greasy
with my brother, having watched the tiger
chase his tail and turn to butter. We are
Mumbo and Jumbo's children despite
historical revision, despite
our parent's efforts, glowing from the inside
out, one hundred megawatts of butter.



Acrostic Poem

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