Diamante Poems

What is a Diamante Poem?

A Diamante Poem, or a Diamond Poem is a style of poetry created by American poet Iris Tiedt in 1969. Diamante Poems are commonly known as Diamond Poems because the shape of the text forms a diamond; the beginning and ending lines are the shortest, while the middle contains longer lines.

Diamond Poems are seven lines long, and do not rhyme. Each line follows a very specific pattern, and the poem itself can be either a synonym or antonym diamante. In a synonym diamante the nouns at the beginning and end of the poem basically mean the same thing. In an antonym diamante the nouns at the beginning and end are opposite.

Rules for writing a Diamond Poem:

Line 1: a one word subject

Line 2: two adjectives describing the subject

Line 3: three verbs ending in *-ing* that are related to the subject

Line 4: four nouns total; two about line one, and two about line seven

Line 5: three verbs ending in *-ing* related the subject in line seven

Line 6: two adjectives describing line seven

Line 7: a one word end subject

The basic structure of the poem looks like this:

<div align="center">

Noun

Adjective-Adjective

Verb-Verb-Verb

Noun-Noun-Noun-Noun

Verb-Verb-Verb

Adjective-Adjective

Noun

</div>

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How to write a Diamond Poem:

When writing a Diamond Poem you first need to think of a topic, or a subject. Remember, the subject of your poem must be a noun, a person, place, or thing. Next, decide if you want your poem to be a synonym or antonym diamante.

In the example below notice water is the subject of the poem. Now, look at line one then line seven. Both words are similar making this a synonym diamante poem.

Example:

<u>H20</u>

water
cool, clear
rippling, rushing, roaring
liquid, hydrogen, oxygen, solid
cracking, shifting, drifting
crystalline, cold
ice

- Carol-Ann Hoyte

Next, brainstorm a list of ideas that are related to your topic. On a sheet of paper make two columns. Write your topic for line one in one column, and your topic for line seven on the other. Think of as many words as you can, adjectives (describing words), verbs (action words), and some nouns that are related to each topic.

Choose words from the lists to use in your poem. Read the example again. Notice how the poet puts together adjectives, verbs, and nouns that make the poem flow.
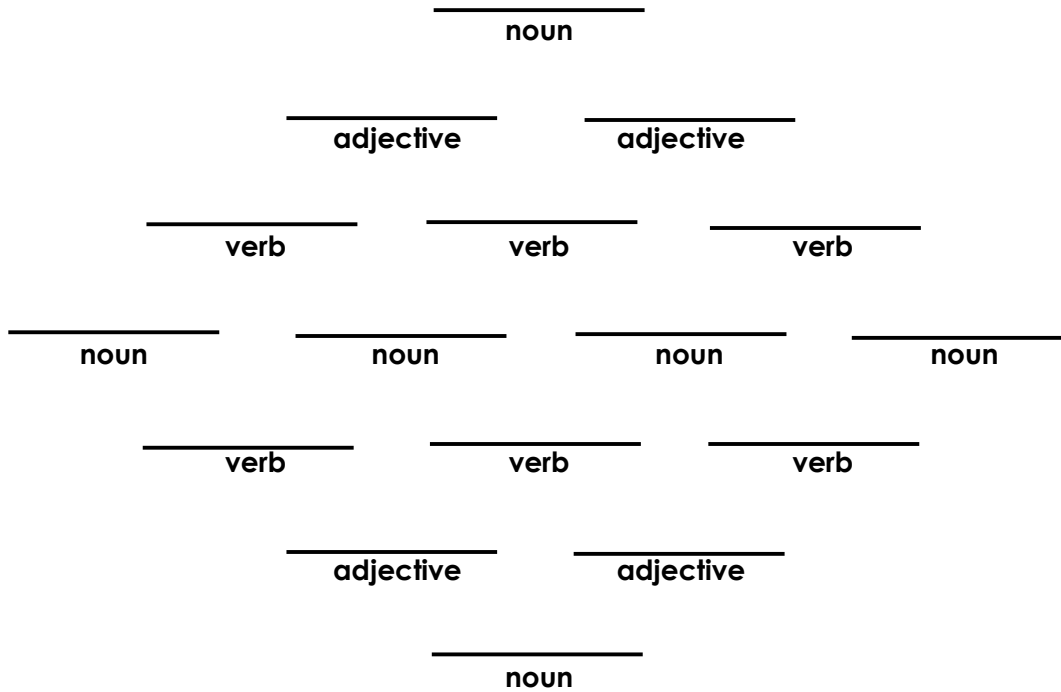
Now you try!

Name: _____

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Choose a topic: _____

Is my poem going to be a synonym or antonym diamante: _____

Brainstorm

_____
noun

_____   _____
adjective   **adjective**

_____   _____   _____
verb   **verb**   **verb**

_____   _____   _____   _____
noun   **noun**   **noun**   **noun**

_____   _____   _____
verb   **verb**   **verb**

_____   _____
adjective   **adjective**

_____
noun

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Write your finished poem in the diamond below.