

# Western Expansion Poem




Using the notes you have gathered during your webquest, write a poem about an individual, group, or experience you read about during our country's westward expansion. Your poem will be graded according to the rubric on the next page.

# Poetry Rubric

Criteria	Focus	Content	Organization	Style	Conventions
<b>Advanced 4 Points</b>	The topics of your poems are evident. There is an evident point to the poem.  “I can visualize or feel the topic of your poem. There is a point to your poem.”	The form/shape exactly matches the type of poem you’re writing.  “Hey, your poems looks just like the examples.”	The poems follow a precise order that flows from one sentence to the next.  “This poem is like a flowing river, smooth, regular, and consistent.”	Ideas are exceptionally descriptive with illustrative word choice and PLENTY of figurative language.  “This poem is extremely descriptive and expressive.”	Few grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation errors (2 or less per poem)
<b>Proficient 3 Points</b>	The topics of your poem are clear. There is a point to your poem.  “I get a good idea or feel for your poem. I get your point.”	The form/shape is close to the type of poem you’re writing. “Your poems look a lot like the examples we studied.”	The poem has a logical order from one sentence to the next. “This poem is like a stream, with some flowing parts and some choppy parts.”	Ideas are descriptive with adequate word choice and some figurative language.  “This poem is descriptive.”	Some grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation errors (3-4 errors per poem)



<b>Basic 2 Points</b>	There is little evidence of a clear topic. There is not a clear point to your poems.  “I think I know what your point is.”	The form/shape vaguely looks like the type of poem you’re writing.  “I think that poem is the type of poem we’re writing, but I can’t tell for sure.”	The order is somewhat random or choppy. “This poem is more like a whitewater rafting trip; you’re not sure what will come next.”	Ideas are somewhat descriptive with limited word choice.  “This poem is lacking some description.”	Many grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation errors (5-6 errors per poem)
<b>Below Basic 1 Point</b>	There is no evidence of a clear topic. There is not a clear point  “I see some ideas but I have no clue what you’re point is.”	There may or may not be any form/shape to your poem. It does not match the type of poem you’re writing.  “What kind of poem is that?”	There is no evident order, just random ideas.  “This poem is like a waterfall that runs into the desert. The flow is not consistent.”	Ideas are bland and not descriptive.  “This poem needs much more description.”	Grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation errors interfere with the meaning (7 or more errors per poem)

My Evaluation = 

Mr. Kelly’s Evaluation = 

Advance A+ = 20 Points A = 19 Points A - = 18 Points	Proficient B+ = 17 Points B = 16 Points B- / C+ = 15 Points C = 14 Points C - = 13 Points	Basic 10 - 12 Points	Below Basic 9 Points or less	
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Note: The student placed a star on the poem they submitted for a grade.