

Playing with Literary Devices with Jordan Caldwell

Grades 9 - 12

Students will learn juxtaposition, oxymoron, and paradox by first identifying them in a spoken-word piece that has been performed for them, creating their own examples, and then finally utilizing one of the chosen literary devices in a poem of their own.

Materials: A writing utensil and paper

The Lesson:

Introduction

Poem 'Creating Forever'

Warm Up Activity (5 min)

- List of 3 things that confuse you (time, sand, cheesecake)
- List of 3 things that conflict (sink/float, cheesecake)
- List of 3 things that are peaceful (sunbathing/moon gazing, cheesecake)
- add to the lists considering which might be connected

Key Terms (10 min)

- Juxtaposition: two things being seen or placed close together with contrasting effect
- Oxymoron: apparently contradictory terms appear in conjunction
- Paradox: a seemingly absurd or self-contradictory statement
- Identify in 'Creating Forever'
- Look at the lists you created earlier and find examples that could be used to create juxtaposition, oxymoron, or paradox

Writing Process (10 min)

- -Discuss effects of using these techniques What do they add/accomplish?
- Show examples in 'Creating Forever'
- Students create 1 example each for juxtaposition, oxymoron, and paradox

Independent Writing (15 min)

- Pick one item from your Confusion list and write at least 4 lines
- Pick one item from your Peaceful list and write at least 4 lines
- Use juxtaposition, oxymoron, or paradox in a stanza that will go between your confusion and peaceful stanzas (again, at least 4 lines)

Wrap Up (3 min)

- Now you should have a poem that's at least 12 lines, you can add to it by playing more with the techniques you learned today, or adding in other techniques you've learned

Call to Action (2 min)

- Post poem/reading of the poem to social media and tag Poetry Promise (@poetrypromiseinc) and NAC (@NVArtsCouncil)

Connection to the Nevada Academic Content Standards for the Fine Arts

- Creating: Conceiving and developing new artistic work and ideas.
- Connecting: Relating artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context.

Connection to Literacy: active listening, reading, comprehension, communicating, sparking, making connections, expressing ideas

About the Artist

Jordan Caldwell

Jordan Caldwell is a spoken-word poet, teaching artist and community organizer. A member of Hi Coup Poetry and a graduate of Nevada State College, Jordan is dedicated to furthering the arts and building more opportunities for fellow artists. One of his missions is to bridge the gap between academic and spoken-word poetry. Jordan aims to help artists find the best avenue for their art and connect them with resources to further their craft.

Performing as the.changeling, Jordan has competed in numerous poetry competitions including multiple Individual World Poetry Slams, 2018 National Poetry Slam, LA InkSlam, and was the winner of the 2018 Utah Pride Festival's Queer Slam. Jordan has also had work featured at: The Utah Arts Festival, Las Vegas Book Festival, Lush Poetry+Design Gallery, and the Nevada Humanities Crossroads Gallery.

An experienced host and MC, Jordan helps to curate open mic's, slam competitions, and workshops. He has led workshops covering written form, performance, memorization, and slam poetry. You can follow the.changeling on Instagram @changeling702. For booking, please contact Jordan at changelingwrites@gmail.com

artists in schools +
communities

Nevada Arts Council Teaching Artist Roster

The Nevada Arts Council Teaching Artist Roster is an online resource for schools, organizations and communities seeking to engage teaching artists. Roster artists are experienced in collaborating with schools and communities to conduct arts learning and cultural experiences in, through and about the arts.

Explore the roster at <https://www.nvartscouncil.org/rosters/teaching-artists/>