

REMEMBER WHEN POEM

Last Questions

I remember when you used to smile
at me. You had the best smile.
It was a warm sunny day.
But why, why did you stop?

I remember when you went away.
My mother said you went to
a nursing home for the elderly.
But granny, why did you go?

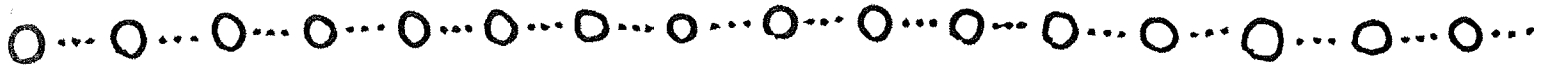
I remember when I came to visit you.
You had questions in your eyes,
didn't know me anymore.
Don't you remember your grandson?

I remember when you left.
You looked so sad lying there.
You were still and wouldn't move.
What ever happened to you?

I remember when I realized
you were gone. I was always glad
I said goodbye.
But granny, did you want to go?

- Eighth Grader

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- Each stanza has four lines.
- The first line of each stanza must begin, "I remember when"
- The last line of each stanza will be a question.
- Vary the question starters (why, when, how...) at the end of each stanza.
- Incorporate figurative language.
- Write at least three stanzas.

1. BRAINSTORM

- Think about significant events, people, places, or animals in your life.
- What do you remember about the place, person, or event?
- Create a list of topic ideas in the box.

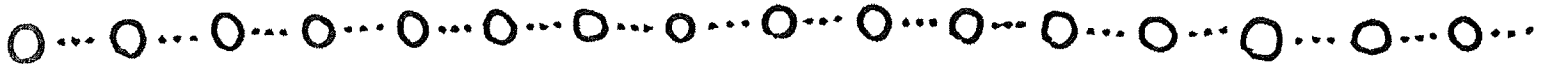
A large, empty rectangular box with a decorative, slightly wavy border. It is intended for students to write down topic ideas for their poem.

2. SELECT A TOPIC

- Review your brainstorm. Then, choose a topic for your Remember When poem.

TOPIC: _____

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3. WRITE A DRAFT OF YOUR POEM

- Write a first draft of your Remember When poem.
- Remember that each stanza starts "I remember when..." and ends with a question. (Try to ask a different type of question each time.)
- Add details, figurative language, sensory details, and descriptions to make your poem more interesting and unique.

A large rectangular frame composed of small, empty squares arranged in a grid. The frame is intended for students to write their poem draft inside it.

4. IMPROVE YOUR DRAFT

- Review your poem.
- Consider how you can improve your writing. You might add descriptions, change common words to more powerful words, rearrange the order of your stanzas, and/or add figurative language.

When you are happy with your poem,
rewrite it on a separate piece of paper for a grade.