

Poems in Conversation

The Poems in Conversation units are carefully designed to serve as selected reading lists, lesson plans, and paper and presentation topics that work well for students. Additional Poems in Conversation units appear on p. 723.

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What Is Poetry?

Poets and songwriters have explored diverse answers to this question for centuries. Compare how the poems in this section conceive of poetry. Consider questions like these: How does each poem understand its purpose(s)? What does each consider to be apt subject matter for a poem? What kinds of language does each poem employ? How does each poem imagine its speaker and its possible audiences?

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