Contents

The authors and series editor	page	1
Foreword		
Introduction		
How to use this book		13

	Activity	Level	Time	Aims	Page
1	Sound poems				17
1.1	Animal sound poems: Contented lions	Elementary to advanced	25	To enable students to explore the kind of sounds and sound clusters which appear in English. To encourage students to experiment with language and create these patterns for themselves	
1.2	Onomatopoeic poems: Snoring Englishmen	Elementary to upper-intermediate	25	To focus on the noises we make to express feelings and to practise ways in which these noises and sounds vary in different languages and cultures	22
1.3	Nickname poems: Garihumbabi, pyramid priest	Elementary to intermediate	25	To investigate the sound and meaning of nicknames and to practise adjectives for describing people	24
1.4	Rhyming poems: Heart where you feel	Lower-intermediate to advanced	25	To experiment with words that have the same vowel sounds and to experiment with rhyme and assonance	26
1.5	Rhythm poems: Gone to London	Elementary to intermediate	25	To help the whole class recognize and enjoy the rhythm in words and groups of words and to practice the pronunciation of proper nouns	27
1.6	Alliterative poems: The Cute Creams	Lower-intermediate to upper- intermediate	25	To draw attention to the opening sounds of words and the concept of alliteration	29

	Activity	Level	Time	Aims	Page
2	Wordplay poems				32
2.1	Word invention poems: beginnings of words Subview – the view from the floor	Lower-intermediate to advanced	25	To explore the meanings and uses of prefixes	32
2.2	Word invention poems: the ends of words Powerful mice	Intermediate to upper-intermediate	25	To practise using the suffixes -ful and -less	35
2.3	Grammar play poems: Honeying the girls	Lower-intermediate to advanced	25	To use morphemes to build new words or to change the meaning of existing words	38
2.4	Opposites poems: Idlis and chapattis	Intermediate to ² upper-intermediate	25	To practise vocabulary of opposites	41
2.5	Preposition poems: Water everywhere	Lower-intermediate to advanced	20	To look at the way a word can combine with different prepositions and to practise prepositional phrases of place	44
2.6	Word association poems: Red, the money goddess	Intermediate to advanced	25	To look at the positive or negative connotations of words and sounds and to explore the cultural information contained in words	46
	Wordmixing poems				48
	Similes about language learning: Words like sea shells	Lower-intermediate to advanced	25	To give students an opportunity to describe language learning. To use the phrases <i>like</i> and <i>as as –</i> to make comparisons	49
	Similes about people: Sister like a flower	Intermediate to advanced	25	To practise ways of describing people in unusual and memorable ways. To practise the use of <i>like</i> and <i>as</i> to make comparisons and to revise the use of countable and uncountable nouns	50
	ldiom poems: As dear as a donkey	Intermediate to advanced	25	To practise the typical idiom structure: as as, and to compare different cultures' expressions and idioms	53
	Adjective/noun poems: The kind snow	Lower-intermediate to advanced	25	To experiment with different combinations of adjectives and nouns and to look at how meaning is changed when words are connected in different ways	55
	Metaphor poems: Hope is a spoon	Intermediate to advanced	25	To develop vocabulary and to experiment with making unusual comparisons	59

	Activity	Level	Time	Aims	Page
3.6	Weather poems: The snorting storm	Intermediate to advanced	25	To look at words which apply to living things and words which do not apply to living things and to explore the effect of mixing up these words	61
4	Sentence pattern poe	ms			64
4.1	l can, l can't: l can hear the rain	Lower-intermediate to intermediate	25	To practise the negative form and to contrast statements and negative sentences (I can, I can't)	64
4.2	Inner questions: Where are you?	Lower-intermediate to intermediate	20	To revise question forms and the present continuous	67
4.3	Conversation poems: OK, bye-bye	Elementary to advanced	20	To practise exclamations and to notice how much information can be communicated with one-word or two-word exchanges	69
4.4	Orders and commands: Stones as souvenirs	Lower-intermediate to advanced	20	To practise the language of rules and regulations. To practise commands with a negative structure: <i>Do not</i>	71
4.5	Relative clauses: I wonder who paints butterflies	Lower-intermediate to intermediate	20	To practise the structure I wonder who/what/why/whether	74
4.6	I know poem: My mother knows my shoe size	Elementary to upper-intermediate	20	To practise simple sentences using the verb <i>know</i> + a noun. To practise complex sentences using <i>know</i> + a subordinate clause	76
4.7	Poems about first days: Surprised by mashed potato	Intermediate to advanced	25	To practise and enrich vocabulary for describing feelings	79
4.8	Mashed sentence poem: I am fond of bananas	Intermediate to advanced	20	To experiment with syntax and to look at how word order changes meaning	81
5	Time poems				83
5.1	Poems about age: Being young, being old	Lower-intermediate to advanced	20	To practise the present simple for describing conditions/states of mind	83
5.2	Busy activity poems: Here is a beehive	Lower-intermediate to advanced	20	To practise the <i>-ing</i> form. To enrich vocabulary by collecting as many verbs as possible to describe actions	85
5.3	Ancient monuments speak: Slaves and princes	Lower-intermediate to advanced	20	To practise the present perfect as a way of describing memories	88

	Activity	Level	Time	Aims P	age
					aye
5.4	Memory poems: Now I'm a poet	Lower-intermediate to advanced	20	To describe changes between the present and the past. To practise <i>used to</i> for past memories	90
5.5	Inner and outer poems: Not climbing but falling	Lower-intermediate to upper-intermediate	20	To describe the difference between outside appearance and inner feelings. To practise the structure wasing (the past continuous)	92
5.6	Talking about the past: I remember the sight of nothing	Elementary to upper-intermediate	20	To practise different patterns for I remember and to recall childhood memories	95
5.7	Feelings: If love was a sweet	Lower-intermediate to upper-intermediate	20	To practise the conditional structure If I was I would. To compare abstract feelings and concrete objects	96
6	Modal verb poems				100
6.1	Guessing poems: A note folded inside a diary	Elementary to advanced	20	To practise modals used for making guesses and predictions	100
6.2	Ideal world poems: A place with no schools	Intermediate to advanced	20	To practise levels of certainty using must and may. To practise clauses with relative pronouns	103
6.3	Values poem: You can't cuddle money	Lower-intermediate to upper-intermediate	20	To practise and revise <i>can</i> for ability. To think about personal values and attitudes to concepts such as fame, money, power, fashion	104
6.4	Giving advice: If you want to be free	Lower-intermediate to advanced	20	To practise modals for giving advice	106
6.5	Poetry market: Poems for sale!	Intermediate to upper-intermediate	25	To practise modals for making recommendations and persuading	108
6.6	New Community Ten Commandments: Be kind when you can	Lower-intermediate to advanced	25	To practise modals for giving rules and regulations	111
7	Language function po	ems			113
7.1	Poems about finding the way: On the corner of night and dreams	Intermediate to advanced	20	To revise the language of asking and giving directions	113
7.2	Poems about getting rid of unwanted clutter: The reject shop	Intermediate to advanced	20	To practise the language of complaints	116
7.3	Fairy-tale advice column: Glass shoes	Lower-intermediate to upper-intermediate	20	To practise patterns for giving advice	120

	Activity	Level	Time	Aims I	Page
7.4	Celebrating and inviting poems: Seeing snow	Intermediate to advanced	20	To revise language for inviting and to learn vocabulary for organizing a party. Also to practise finding out about one another	123
7.5	Poems comparing likes and preferences: Tigers and oranges	Elementary to advanced	30	To practise ways of expressing preference	125
7.6	Praise-songs: My magnificent bull	Intermediate to advanced	30	To practise and enrich vocabulary for complimenting, flattering, and praising	128
8	Genre poems				131
8.1	Recipe poems: Custard kisses	Intermediate to advanced	20	To practise the language of instructions. To learn the vocabulary of cooking	131
8.2	Memo poems: I have forgotten to take the rose	Lower-intermediate to advanced	20	To practise the language of simple messages and notes	134
8.3	List poems: Tom's Blue-Eye astrologer's shop	Elementary to advanced	20	To practise vocabulary in lexical sets. To practise classifying and grouping words	136
8.4	Diary poems: First pair of high heels	Elementary to intermediate	20	To practise the simple past. To practise different ways of writing the date	139
8.5	Postcard poems: Greetings from the moon	Lower-intermediate to advanced	20	To practise sending short messages. To practise formulae for informal greetings	140
8.6	Answerphone messages : Press nothing	Lower-intermediate to advanced	20	To practise the language used in formal recorded answerphone messages	143
8.7	Greetings card jumble poem: <i>Merry birthday</i>	Elementary to intermediate	20	To notice short conventional phrases used in greetings cards, and short messages. To notice typical collocations, and what happens to meaning when these are changed	145
9	Poetry games				147
9.1	Mini-sagas: There was a boy from Turkey	Lower-intermediate to advanced	25	To practise the language of narrative. To describe the story process (opening, development, ending)	147
9.2	Chain poems: Snake in the grass	Lower-intermediate to advanced	20	To practise building sentences. To look at the links in meaning between words	150

	Activity	Level	Time	Aims	Page
9.3	Expanding poems: Roses at the wedding	Lower-intermediate to advanced	20	To practise building sentences (complex and co-ordinate sentences)	152
9.4	Shape poems: Write my country	Elementary to advanced	30	To look at language for describing places and landscapes. To experiment with the shape and layout of words	154
9.5	Alphabet poems: H is the high jump	Elementary to intermediate	25	To invite students to look more closely at the alphabet. To develop mnemonics for writing the letters	157
9.6	Riddles: I waved and he waved back	Elementary to advanced	30	To practise vocabulary for describing everyday objects and the jobs they do	159
10	Poems as stories: Go a	nd open the door			162
10.1	First times and last times: First he was a boy, then he was a man	Lower-intermediate to advanced	25	To practise describing people. To revise past continuous forms (she was + -ing) and to practise talking about time (in/on/ago)	162
10.2	Now and then poems: When I was good	Intermediate to advanced	25	To focus on high and low moments in one's memories	164
10.3	Inner language, outer language: <i>The music</i> <i>is playing</i>	Lower-intermediate to advanced	30	To contrast classroom language with 'inner' language. To contrast controlled language with 'free' language	166 d
10.4	Poems about family members	Lower-intermediate to advanced	25	To think about the special roles and tasks of family members	169
10.5	Family sagas: My grandmother's bed	Lower-intermediate to advanced	30	To capture aspects of time and place in a few lines. To practise the simple past for telling simple narratives	171
10.6	Poems about changes: First I was, Then I was	Lower-intermediate to advanced	20	To describe change and growth. To practise the simple past	173
10.7	A visualization poem: Go and open the door	Lower-intermediate to advanced	20	To raise morale if the group have become unhappy. To practise modals (it may/might/could). To practise the structure Go and+ verb in its root or unchanged form (go and see, go and answer, go and open)	175
	Appendix 1 Poetry fo	APMS C			179

179

181

181

183

183

1 Poems which count syllables

3 Poems with special rhyme schemes

4 Poems which have special rhythms

5 Poems which have a special mood

2 Poems which repeat lines

Appendix 2 Glossary of key words		
Further reading	191	
1 Collections of short poems for the classroom	191	
2 Resource books for teachers	191	
3 Articles and discussions about poetry in the classroom	192	
4 Useful websites for poetry	192	
5 Dictionaries and reference books	192	