

ALLEGATO 14

**Learning English through**

**Poems and Songs**

**Aims**

* To enrich students’ English learning experience and extend a range of language abilities through exploring poems and songs.
* To strengthen students’ skills of understanding and appreciating the themes, structures, features and language in a range of poems and songs;
* To help students to respond to and give expression to the imaginative ideas, moods and feelings expressed in poems and songs through written, oral and performance means; and enable students to apply the knowledge and skills they have learned in their own creative production and critical appreciation of poems and songs.

**Warm-up Activity**

**Favourite poems/songs**

1. Work with a partner. Make a list of poems and songs which you like. Do they have anything in common? What do you think makes poems and songs good? Be ready to share your views with the class.

2. Listen to a poem. Work with a partner and decide what your reaction to it is.

Do the feelings and/or words please you?

Your presentation should include:

• the poem/song lyrics, the writer/singer and any other background information that may help your

classmates to understand the poem/song better (e.g. when and/or why it was written)

• a brief description of what the song/poem means to you

(e.g. “This song helps me to feel better when I am lonely”; “The poem reminds me of my school

friend who left last year”; “I listen to this song when I am working out because it gives me the strength to keep going”)

**Discussion**

1. Write down some characteristics of poetry.

When you have finished, share your ideas with your partner.

**My ideas…**

e.g. Poems are usually written in separate lines organised as stanzas instead of paragraphs

**My partner’s ideas…**

**What makes a poem/song good?**

Read the following suggestions about what makes a poem/song good and decide which you agree

with. Talk about them with a partner. Feel free to add your own suggestions.

It is difficult to understand.

It contains usual / original ideas.

It makes the reader think..

The rhythm is interesting.

It makes people laugh.

**Summing up**

What qualities must poems and songs have for you to like them? Write down your ideas in the space below and share them with your classmates

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_