

# 4 X 4 METAPHOR POEM **Pre-Writing Exercise**



Metaphor: A figure of speech in which a word or phrase is compared to another object (noun) to which it is not directly related. A metaphors can be a thing that is regarded (as representative or symbolic of) as something else.

My Poem Topic: (choose a noun that is important to you)

Eight different nouns that I might compare my topic to:  
(for the poem you will choose your four best ideas.)


When you have eight nouns, select the four which you think would make the best comparisons for a descriptive poem. **Circle** the four you plan to use in the chart *above*. Write the topic & four choices in the table *below*. Under each header write descriptive words or phrases that tell about your choices. When it is completely filled out, look for commonalities or ways to connect your choice to your topic's descriptives. This will assist you to write your phrase lines 2-3.

TOPIC	Choice #1	Choice#2	Choice#3	Choice#4

Metaphor statements will be line one of the stanza. For your metaphor statement, you will take your topic and connect it to your choice. (Example: Time is a melody.) Then... Ask, "Would any of the nouns I used be improved if I put an interesting adjective in front of them?" Write your four metaphors statements below. (Example: Time is a soothing jazz melody.) Reread your and put them in order of least to most favorite. Renumber them if necessary.

<b>Metaphor statement #1</b> <i>Poetry</i> <b>1</b>	<i>Poetry</i> <b>2</b>
<b>Metaphor statement #2</b>	
<b>Metaphor statement #3</b>	
<b>Metaphor statement #4</b>	

**Putting it all together....**

For each stanza, you will fill in line one with your metaphor statement. Lines 2-4 you will look at your choice description chart and create lines that will describe each choice, but can still be related back to the original topic. This will explain your each metaphor's comparison. Read your sentences out loud and circle or highlight your favorite words or phrases. Focus on these words and phrases as you begin to write your poem's rough draft. Your final version should be typed or legibly handwritten in ink.

Poem #1 Topic/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Choice-1**

- 1. Metaphor statement#1: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Choice-2**

- 1. Metaphor statement#2: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Choice-3**

- 1. Metaphor statement#3: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Choice-4**

- 1. Metaphor statement#4: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_

---

Poem #2 Topic/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Choice-1**

- 1. Metaphor statement#1: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Choice-2**

- 1. Metaphor statement#2: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Choice-3**

- 1. Metaphor statement#3: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Choice-4**

- 1. Metaphor statement#4: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_