

Concrete Poems - Mentor Text

Read the poem, “Paper Doll”, by Soeun Lee, as you watch the video. The Mentor Text continues on page 2.

Paper Doll by Soeun Lee, grade 8

Fold,
 Bend,
 Cut,
 Tape.

Fold,
 Bend,
 Cut,
 Tape.

Fold,
 Bend,
 Cut,
 Tape.

Repeating over and over,
In an unending loop of scourge,
In an unending loop of torture.

The fingers fold you,
As you struggle to get back up,
The glares from those fingertips press you down, Like a heavy weight that will never be lifted.

The palms bend you,
The comments seared on them burns you, No matter how hard you try to escape them, Like fire
that'll never be defeated.

The scissors cut you,
Stabbing you with those blazer sharp ends, The invisible words dripping on those edges, Like an
oath never to be said.

And then there's the tape,
That attempts to piece you together,
That attempts to make everything better, As if taping yourself together will make it alright.

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But even with the tape,
You're able to see the folded parts,
You're able to feel the bended paper,
You're able to remember the cut up parts.

The parts that the tape won't ever be able to patch up, They're still visible,
Remaining just like a paper doll's.

Tape,
 Cut,
 Bend,
 Fold.

Tape,
 Cut,
 Bend,
 Fold.

Tape,
 Cut,
 Bend,
 Fold.

Concrete Poems - Brainstorm

Brainstorm some ideas for your own shape poem. The poem can be as simple or as complex as you'd like, but it should be written in a shape that coordinates with the topic or meaning of the poem. You can use words to describe the potential shape or sketch it out. Three examples have been provided below.

Topic	Potential Shape
<i>Winter</i>	<i>Snowflake</i>
<i>Snakes</i>	<i>The letter 'S'</i>
<i>A Day at the Beach</i>	<i>Waves</i>

Concrete Poems - Write Your Own

In the space below, write your own concrete poem. Choose the pages with lines or the blank pages depending on what would work best with the shape and form of your poem.

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