Forms for Poetic Reflection: Haiku and Cinquain

A **haiku** poem is a "picture poem" that doesn’t rhyme, and it has three lines with 17 beats:

- Line 1 has 5 beats
- Line 2 has 7 beats
- Line 3 has 5 beats

Sample:

*Katrina Relief*

Too much water, wind
Crashing on all the people.
From afar, we help.

A **cinquain** is a five-line poem that does not rhyme and is set up like this:

- Line 1 is a single word (usually a noun)
- Line 2 has two words (usually 2 adjectives)
- Line 3 has three words (usually verbs ending in –ing)
- Line 4 has a descriptive 4-word phrase
- Line 5 is a single word (usually a synonym for the first word or repeats it)

Sample:

*Global Community*

Giving
Heart, mind
Sharing, caring, empowering
Helps our global community
Love

Adapted from the Learning To Give unit *Philanthropy - A Day at the Beach* at [www.learningtogive.org/lessons/unit85](http://www.learningtogive.org/lessons/unit85)