



# Found Poetry Packet

This packet was designed to help students understand, enjoy, and create “found” poetry. “Found” poetry asks students to reshape an existing text into something new. This product is the “found” poem.

While “found” poems can be created from any text, I’ve chosen three types to showcase here:

1. A poem created from a single fiction text
2. A poem created from a single newspaper article
3. A poem created from two newspaper articles on the same topic

Most likely, you won’t do all three in your classroom in one year, but I’ve provided materials for each of these based on three source texts. You can use these to expose your students to “found” poetry. Here’s an example lesson outline:

1. Read the excerpt from *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland* out loud. Ask students what words stuck out to them.
2. Give students copies of the text with the poem. Have students read the poem – what do they notice? (words from the story → explain that this is the “found” premise)
3. Discuss the poem, following the Teacher’s Guide
4. Have students write a poem based on a new text.

“Found” poetry is a great teaching tool because the possibilities are endless. I have used this will many levels of students on several kinds of texts. I hope you have a great time working on this with your students.

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Thanks,  
**Danielle @ Nouvelle**



# Table of Contents

## **Three source texts**

Excerpt from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll

"The William Penn" from *The National Gazette*, March 15, 1834

"Steamboat Burnt" from *The National Gazette*, March 15, 1834

## **"Found" Poem examples**

*Alice* Excerpt and "found" poem on one page

"Found" poem alone

"Steamboat Burnt" and "found" poem on one page

"Found" poem alone

*Gazette* articles and comparative "found" poem on one page

"Found" poem alone

## **Brainstorming Worksheets**

*Alice* worksheet

Answer Key

Blank Single Text worksheet – ***use with any text***

"Steamboat" worksheet

Answer Key

*Gazette* articles - Comparative worksheet

Answer Key

Blank Comparative worksheet – ***use with any text***

## **Example Project Guidelines**

### Teacher's Guides

*Alice* and "Found" Poem – Teacher's Guide

"Steamboat Burning" and "Found" Poem – Teacher's Guide

*Gazette* articles – Teacher's Guide



From *The National Gazette*, March 15, 1834

STEAMBOAT BURNT. - A letter from the P. M. of Philadelphia to the P. M. of this city, dated March 4, states, that the Steamboat Wm. Penn, took fire just as she turned Gloucester Point, about 3 miles below that city. She was run ashore, where the passengers, 120 in number, jumped overboard, and great confusion ensued - the water up to their waists. Three lives are said to have been lost. The mails and baggage were all thrown overboard, and some of the former saved in a bad condition. The Baltimore mail was missing, and how many more was not ascertained. The Washington letter bag was saved, and one for New York and one for Hartford. The boat floated off and grounded on the island opposite the city, and will be a total loss.

The names of the dead so far as ascertained, are the Rev. John Mitchell Moore, of Lewistown, Pa., and Colonel Joseph S. Porter, of Philadelphia. A lady was lost, whose name was not ascertained. One man drifted out into the river on a settee, but was finally saved. The names of the persons who were aft from going forward; they therefore jumped into the water beyond their depth.

The report of two engineers having perished, is erroneous. A letter addressed to a merchant in New York, containing \$5000 in bank bills, is said to have been lost. A merchant of New York is said to have lost \$15,000 in jewelry. The body of Walter W. Bulkley was found \$900 in bank bills. The female at Cherry Hill has not yet been recognized. A ring upon her finger following words - "Let love abide forever. J. B."

THE WILLIAM PENN. - The extent of the loss is a matter of doubt. It was rumored yesterday, that no more bodies were to be seen, and that there is to be believed that the female at Cherry Hill has not yet been recognized. During the anxiety attending the search for the bodies with a very young child, and a gentleman carefully in his cloak, and called to a person addressed probably did not attend to the matter, however, supposing the infant safe, helped the child was not to be found; but as it had afterwards, a person discovering the matter with utter astonishment, he perceived it contained

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The names of the dead so far as ascertained, are the Rev. John Mitchell Moore, of Lewistown, Del., and Colonel Joseph S. Porter, of Philadelphia. A lady was lost, whose name was not ascertained. One man drifted out into the river on a settee, but was finally saved. When the steamboat was run on shore, she run with her bows into the mud, and her stern in deep water - the fire was raging so intensely in the centre of the boat, as to prevent the passengers who were aft from going forward; they therefore jumped into the water beyond their depth.

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# Three Sample Texts with "Found" poems

\* text-only pages for student mark-up  
\* print class sets or one for each student

### A "Found" Poem:

Down, down, down  
Nothing else to do  
A dreamy sort of way  
Not a moment to be lost!  
Away went Alice like the wind!  
Oh my! How late it's getting!  
A little three-legged table  
A tiny golden key  
A little door and  
To her great delight, it fitted!

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"Found" Poetry - Brainstorming Sheet

	<i>Steamboat Bunting</i>
Main idea	The boat ran ashore and eventually sank
Secondary ideas	There was a storm A few people died The mail was lost
Interesting words and phrases	

\* Brainstorming worksheets for each text

"Found" Poetry - Brainstorming Sheet

	<i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i>
Main idea	Alice chases the White Rabbit down the rabbit hole
Secondary ideas	Alice is excited to chase the rabbit Alice fears not finding a way out Alice finds the door!
Interesting words and phrases	
New themes	Missing home Getting lost Adventure

\* Blank worksheets to use with any text

\* Answer Keys included





# "Found" Poetry - Brainstorming Sheet



	<i>"Steamboat Burnt"</i>	<i>"The Willial"</i>
<b>Main idea</b>	The boat ran ashore and eventually sank	A baby was rescued
<b>Secondary ideas</b>	There was great confusion A few people died The mail was lost	The boat fire is a mystery The baby was temporarily lost
<b>Interesting words and phrases</b>	<p>* Help students get to the "key ideas" and details</p> <p>* BORDER-free versions included</p>	
<b>New themes</b>	Tragic events People's lives Mail vs. People?	Tragic events Miracles Concerned citizens 😊





Staple to Final

### Found Poetry

A "found poem" uses the words from another text and reorganizes chosen words and phrases into a new text - a poem. Choose one character or event from \_\_\_\_\_ and write a poem using words and phrases that you select. You may use text from multiple chapters or just one. The final product should focus on a central theme or motif and be at least ten lines.

<b>Content</b> ✓	Provides exemplary insight on a central theme or motif.	Provides some insight on a central theme or motif.	Provides little to no insight. Shows little effort.
<b>Creativity</b> ✓	Transforms the original prose into an interesting poem.	Transforms the original prose into a poem.	Shows little effort to transform the prose into a poem. Not enough effort.
<b>Presentation</b> ✓	Written in pen or typed. Turned in on time. Formatted like a poem.	Meets two requirements.	Meets one or none of the requirements.

#### Brainstorming

Character/Event I'd like to do: \_\_\_\_\_

Make a list of phrases and words you like (Your final poem should keep them in the order in which they appear in the prose):

Possible themes/motifs (inspired by these phrases)	What I'd like to say about them

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# Print-and-Go project page for any text:

Staple to Final

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	5	3-4	0-2
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## \* Prompt

## \* Brainstorming

## \* Rubric

#### Brainstorming Worksheet

Character/Event I'd like to do: \_\_\_\_\_

Pages: \_\_\_\_\_

Make a list of phrases and words you like (Your final poem should keep them in the order in which they appear in the prose):

Possible themes/motifs (inspired by these phrases)	What I'd like to say about them..

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## Persuasive Techniques

**Persuasive Techniques PowerPoint & Project Bundle**  
grades 7-10  
By Danielle Hall @nouvelle  
122 pages/slides!  
Students learn, analyze, and implement persuasive techniques in this engaging collection!

**Persuasive Techniques Commercial Project**  
grades 6-10  
By Danielle Hall @nouvelle  
Students create and perform a commercial using persuasive techniques

**Persuasive Techniques Commercial Analysis Project**  
grades 6-10  
By Danielle Hall @nouvelle  
Students evaluate and present a commercial in a guided analysis

**Persuasive Techniques Pick 2**  
grades 6-10  
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Choose any two persuasive techniques projects from the list to enjoy 20-25% savings!

## Tools for Short Stories

**"The Lady or the Tiger?"**  
by Frank Stockton  
Students argue for a specific ending and use textual evidence to support their claims.  
by Danielle @ Nouvelle  
**Argumentative Essay**  
grades 8-11

**"The Monkey's Paw"**  
by W.W. Jacobs  
Mood Rewrite  
Students analyze the mood in a passage from the classic short story and then rewrite it  
by Danielle @ Nouvelle  
**Creative Writing**  
grades 7-11

**"Lamb to the Slaughter"**  
by Roald Dahl  
The Prosecution/ Defense of Mrs. Maloney  
Students write the closing statement of Mrs. Maloney's murder trial using textual evidence to support their claims  
by Danielle @ Nouvelle  
**Persuasive Essay**  
grades 8-11

**Short Story Adapted Unit Test**  
By Danielle Hall @ Nouvelle  
grades 7-9  
Adapted Unit Test (low-performing, ESL, EC) focused on Plot, Characterization, and Conflict in five stories  
Answer Key Included

## Resources for Writing

**Paragraph Peer and Self Review Worksheets**  
grades 7-10  
Example paragraph & review included  
This guided review helps students develop a critical analysis of introduction and paragraph structure for themselves and for their peers.

**Dear Mr. Shakespeare...**  
Ah... Twitter!  
2b or not 2b  
2b  
2b  
2b...  
Students explain a STEM innovation to Shakespeare in a friendly letter (grades 7-9)

**Round-Robin Writing Bundle**  
\*Student Worksheets  
\*Teacher's Guide  
grades 6-9

**Symbolism Essay My Shield**  
grades 6-10  
Students create their personal shield and describe its symbolism.

Thank you again for your download! Enjoy!

~Danielle @ Nouvelle



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~Danielle @ Nouvelle

