



Over the first couple of months that we have been in school, Ms. Guerin began introducing us to poetry and we have been becoming more and more familiar with it each class. I’ve tried my best in writing a few poems for you to be able to read. Although, not all of them are works of perfection. I found that it was really easy for me to write poems about topics I enjoyed, which made the lines flow smoothly and interestingly. As you’ll be able to tell in my three poems out of six – of which are all having to deal with winter or Christmas in some sort. One of my favorite times of the year, minus the cold. For some of my poems such as Seasons, I found I found it difficult to fit the criteria of what was expected of the poem – like making it the right amount of lines without being too brief or too clumped together. Especially in Seasons, the first and last line had to be the same, so you really have to think about how you’re going to start and it to make everything else fit together.

I’m extremely proud of all the similes I was able to come up with in my poem Best Friends. And in my poem labeled Christmas, you’ll notice my passion for the holiday and the joy it brings me. Just writing about the holiday makes me excited.

Everyday, as we read a new poem from poetry 180, I learn new ways to develop my thoughts into words, and how in poetry you’re able to write about anything in various formats. There have been a few poems that we have read that I enjoyed and a few that I have disliked. I really liked “The End of April” by Phillis Levin. He described things so beautifully with elegant similes that all made perfect sense. A poem I didn’t like was “Radio” by Laurel Blossom. I find it annoying when poems repeat over and over again about silly little things. The poem makes its self quite clear that there is no radio.

Every class I’m learning new things about poetry and the way I write to express myself and it makes it all the more easier for each piece I write.

**Dedication:**

To my younger sister, Emily, who I know will always be there for me. I look forward to seeing you grow older throughout the years. We have been through good and bad times together, as sisters always do. I enjoy spending time with you as seeing your face light up when something’s funny. You’re always able to cheer me up when I’m feeling down. I couldn’t ask for a better sister.

**My best friend**   
  
My best friend’s heart is as big as my mom’s minivan,  
Thoughtful and trustworthy  
Our bond is like two rings interconnected,  
Sharing laughs and spreading joy  
My best friend is like a four leaf clover,  
Lucky to have but extremely hard to find  
We share secrets like we are in kindergarten again  
Always there for each other when needed most.  
  
There from the start,  
Together till the end,  
That’s what I call best friends.  
  
To me, our friendship is like a rainbow,  
Each color is a different adventure.  
Every adventure is like a brand new story to tell,  
Exciting and juicy with detail.  
If I ever lost my best friend, it would be like losing a sock,  
I’d never be able to find the other match,  
My best friend is as bright as the sun,  
Blinding with life and beauty.  
Our friendship is like a never ending road,  
It’s going to last forever.  
  
There from the start,  
Together till the end,  
That’s what I call best friends.

**SANTA**   
  
Sneaking so quietly to see if he’s there  
Awaking in the middle of the night,  
Nothing new, cookies still there  
Till I finally shut my eyes for good  
Arise in the morning to find the milk has been drunk, with one cookie to spare.

**Lazy Nights**  
  
Sultry summer night,  
Lost with friends  
On a beach at dusk  
The tunes start to play  
With the soft strums of a guitar  
The waves crashing behind us  
In perfect harmony  
  
Miles away from home  
The scents of the seaweed  
And the sand,  
Squishing in between your toes  
Moonlight casting shadows  
As I watch the stars in the sky  
And listen to the crickets chirp  
  
Breezy air,  
Along with perfect smells  
Marshmallows roasting over the flames.  
Oozing and dripping down my hand.  
The essence of the fire,  
My favorite part.  
I stay up late,  
And I sleep in.  
And the best of all is when I wake up at sunrise   
And realize that when I go home,  
There are fresh, hot pancakes of fried perfection, made of fluffy, warm, buttery goodness awaiting my taste buds.   
Pure bliss.

**Christmas**   
  
As the snow begins to fall  
Smiles start to grow  
And the laughter and joy fill the air.  
Baking cookies and setting out milk,  
Eating the raw dough before it’s even in the over.  
While singing along to Christmas music.  
Decorating the Christmas tree,  
Fighting over who gets to put the angel on top,  
Stringing lights and candy canes.  
Eagar to open the presents that magically appeared, placed under the tree,  
That says “Santa’s Helper” on the from line.  
The clock strikes, it’s time for bed  
Awoken by the sounds of Santa’s sled.



**White**   
  
Snow falls for the first time  
Translucent faces all around  
Snowball fights  
The lace jacked, cuddled to her body  
We drink hot cocoa with mini marshmallows   
And enjoy eggnog for the holidays  
Exhaling the frosted air  
We build snowmen  
As our hands turn bloodless  
Toasty warm milk and cookies  
Soothe out faint bodies  
What a great end to a glistening winter day.

[](http://www.heightslibrary.org/wordpress/cerebralrat/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/winter.jpg)

**Seasons**   
  
Autumn leaves  
Fall to the ground  
Red, orange  
Yellow and brown  
Colors changing  
All around  
Getting time to wear  
A heavier coat  
As temperatures turn twenty below,  
The wind blows  
And down comes  
Autumn leaves



Three months is a long time to learn to develop new qualities in poetry skills, which I know I have. Throughout my works I’ve been able to show connections from the outside world and myself. My Christmas related poems relate to the world and the whole celebration of Christmas, but in my poems I relate myself, and my own traditions to Christmas time. As a writer, you always have to be aware of your audience and what kind of audience you are writing for. In all of my pieces, I was aware of the audience I was writing for. By that, I mean that all of my pieces are easy to follow and relate too, as well as appropriate for all age groups. When writing, you want your audience to feel influenced by the works of writing your creating. You want to know how to specialize your wording to make it persuading and interesting. In my poems, such as “Lazy Nights” and “White”, I’ve put a lot of detail in too them to creative a visual image that pulls my readers in and makes them intrigued. When we first learned about literary terms in writing, I had difficulties, but the more we wrote, the more I learned how to use them in the proper ways and in different techniques. In “Best Friends” I used repetition to describe my overall friendship. Also, in “Christmas” I tried to use imagery to create a picture in my reader’s mind of how I experience my Christmas. Every writer knows that there are a lot of steps to creating a final piece. No matter what type you are writing. You still should make several drafts, revise and edit your work, and also do some proof reading. I have done these steps over and over again with several of my poems, improving them more each time with simple changes which can change the whole outlook of the piece and make it sound a million times better.

As a English student, I feel that we should learn more about the different type of structures in poetry. This way, I would have a better understanding and guild line of how to construct a poem.

During my process of writing various poems, I took risks in many different fields. I added a lot of details, trying to make my writings more indulging, and I tried to use a larger vocabulary than normal. Although, I wasn’t sure if I used it in the correct format. If I were to have taken more risks during this unit, I would have been spending more time on each piece to perfect it more.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Ashley pollard is a student currently attending Guilderland High School, located in New York. She enjoys writing because of the way she is able to express herself through a variety of words. She is the type of poet who likes to write freely about what she wants without any certain requirements. She states that she has learned a lot about poetry and now is able to write is much easier than she did before.