# Poetic Inquiry

## A fill-in-the-blanks worksheet

Full resource, see: <https://www.ncrm.ac.uk/resources/online/all/?id=20857>

Use this worksheet to explore how poetry can support reflection, analysis, and collaboration in your project.

Poetic inquiry could help me to answer my key research question(s), which is:

If I were to write **found poems**, data sources I could use are *(e.g. podcasts, social media/ forum discussions, documentation like curricula, guidelines, policies etc, artistic productions like TV shows):*

If I were to use **autoethnographic poems** in this project, I could reflect on *(e.g. self-identity, research context, emotive response etc):*

If I were to write **transcript poems,** the steps I’d take would be:

1.

2.

3.

The advantages of then doing **participant-checking** (member-checking) would be *(e.g. greater accuracy, more confidence in results, more inclusive)*:

The disadvantages of then doing participant-checking (member-checking) would be *(e.g. length of time taken, more onerous for participants)*:

I could mitigate this disadvantage by *(e.g. making it optional, doing it earlier in project):*

If I were to use **academic literature poems** in this project, the part of my research topic I’d address would be:

If I were to use **field-note poems** in this project, the steps I’d take would be:

1.

2.

3.

I could use poetic inquiry in the **dissemination** of my research by *(e.g. exhibition, academic publication, share with professional audience)*:

I think my particular **research participants** would / would not enjoy writing poems because:

If I were to get research participants to write poems, the steps of the process would be:

1.

2.

3.

To make this more accessible and fun for them I could *(e.g. present a model, do it as group work, record instead of writing)*

Practical considerations for this are *(e.g. funding, physical space, timescales):*

Someone in my department I could ask advice from on practicalities would be:

Poetic inquiry could make my project more **collaborative** because I could *(e.g. share poems easily, write together with other researchers / participants, run workshops)*:

In my project, I’d principally **use poetic inquiry to** *(circle which apply)*:

Analyse & create insight

Reflect

Disseminate results

Procure data

My research topic could benefit from a poetic inquiry methodology because **my research is** *(circle which apply):*

Ambiguous

Nuanced

Disruptive and non-linear

Embodied

Specific

Emotive/ empathetic

Using poetic inquiry could make my project more **ethical and inclusive** because *(e.g. privilege participant voice, be more collaborative, challenge dominant discourses)*:

Ethical issues I need to think about beyond consent and data storage are *(e.g. intellectual ownership of poems, poems being made public, use of composite voices):*

I have the **literary skills** to write poems *(circle)*:

Yes

Maybe

No

I could gain literary mentorship or skills development within my university from *(e.g. MA seminar, apply for development funding):*

and outside my university from *(e.g. books, short-courses):*

If I worked collaboratively with a **professional poet** on this project, the steps of the process would be *(e.g. write alternative drafts, gain feedback, commission poems from data)*:

1.

2.

3.

and to organise this I’d have to *(e.g. apply for funding, approach the Creative Writing department, contact a community writing group)*:

Practically, a benefit of using poetic inquiry **for me,** as a researcher, would be *(e.g. concise data set, easily shareable, enjoyable)*:

My **concern** about using poetic inquiry is *(e.g. finding the right journal, other’s views of the method)*:

If I wanted to discuss these methodological or ethical concerns, helpful people in my network/ department would be:

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*When working with professional writers, the following organisations may be helpful:*

NAWE (writers in education): <https://www.nawe.co.uk/professional-directory.html>

The Writing Squad (young writers): <https://www.writingsquad.com/squad-writers/>

Apples and Snakes (spoken word): <https://applesandsnakes.org/book-a-poet/>

Arts Jobs: [www.artsjobs.org.uk](http://www.artsjobs.org.uk)

Poets and Writers (USA): <https://www.pw.org/directory>

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