

# Writing Poetry – It Can be About You!

By Cheryl Moskowitz



can it be



about



me?

**A video resource designed to be used alongside the reading of *Can it Be About Me?* a poetry collection by Cheryl Moskowitz designed to encourage pupils of all ages and abilities, and their teachers, to use poetry as a creative form of self-expression, communication and sharing of ideas.**

The video was conceived as a way of introducing myself, Cheryl Moskowitz, and my poetry to KS2 and KS3 classes in SEN schools in Kent.

## **Video contents:**

### **Introduction**

### **Making a 'Poetry Passport'**

### **Writing a self-portrait Cinquain**

### ***What did you do on your holiday?***

### ***Onomatopoeia Rap***

**<http://199.204.248.127/~cherylmo/can-it-be-about-me.html>**



The video takes, as its starting point, the idea that in order to write a poem about yourself you have to first consider what are the particular things that make you YOU?

Having written your name, chosen an alias for yourself, designed a symbol or a tag and thought about the things you like and the things you don't much care for, as well as your dreams and ambitions and the things you know you never want to do... you are well equipped to use that information in a poem about yourself.

It is sometimes hard to know how to begin a poem without a few rules to get you going. Using a particular form can be good, especially when you have lots of ideas and information you want to include in a single poem. A cinquain is only five lines long but works well to provide a 'snapshot' of the subject and therefore is just perfect for a self-portrait poem.

*What did you do on your holiday?* and *Onomatopoeia Rap* are both poems from *Can it Be About Me?* – I read these two aloud in the video and use them to encourage ideas for writing new poems on similar themes.

Poetry is meant to be read aloud. The sound of a poem is as important as its meaning. I hope that those of you watching this video might also want to have copies of *Can it Be About Me?* in your classrooms so that you can read aloud some of the other poems from the book and get more ideas for writing your own.

*Can it Be About Me?* can be ordered from:  
**<http://199.204.248.127/~cherylmo/can-it-be-about-me.html>**

