 Resource 14

Performance poetry research task

1. Construct a timeline of the development of performance poetry, including the names of some key performers.
2. Define ‘performance poetry’.
3. Define ‘slam poetry’.
4. How and why was poetry used in preliterate societies?
5. Does preliterate poetry (epics, histories etc) differ from our contemporary performance poetry? Why or why not?
6. Who is Luka Lesson? Provide 5-10 biographical dot-points of information about him.
7. Account for the growing popularity of performance poetry.

Useful links include:

1. Performance poetry:
   * To get you [started](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Performance_poetry)
2. Value and history of Performance Poetry:
   * [The rise of performance poetry](file:///C:\Users\mishiguro\Desktop\○%09https:\www.independent.co.uk\arts-entertainment\books\features\national-poetry-day-the-rise-and-rise-of-performance-poetry-a6683576.html)
   * [History of performance poetry](file:///C:\Users\mishiguro\Desktop\○%09https:\robertdgarnham.wordpress.com\a-brief-history-of-performance-poetry\)
3. Luka Lesson
   * [Redroom company](https://redroomcompany.org/poet/luka-lesson/)
   * [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luka_Lesson)

Extension Activities:

1. Look up one of the following performance poets and watch one or more of their performances. What similarities or differences do you note between their work and Luka Lesson?

| Name A | Name B |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Shane Koyczan | 1. Sarah Kay |
| 1. Blythe Baird | 1. Darius Simpson and Scout Bostley |
| 1. Lily Myers | 1. Dylan Garity |
| 1. Nkosi Nkulueko | 1. Any of your own choosing |
| 1. Alex Dang | None |

1. Share one of the poems you like on your social media account or play it to people who are close to you. How do people react to the video?
2. Conduct a search for any ‘Performance Poetry’ or ‘Spoken Word’ or ‘Slam Poetry’ performances that are nearby to you.