

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Two-Voice Poems

Two-Voice Poems are written from two different points of view on the same topic. Possible subjects could be: boy-girl relationships, baseball-bat, hair straightener-hair, cat-dog, winter coat-bathing suit, healthy food-junk food, brother-sister, pencil-paper. The possibilities are endless!

1. Choose two people or objects that have a relationship.
2. Brainstorm some similarities and differences between these people or objects. Use a Venn diagram or a T-chart to organize your ideas.
3. Some writers prefer to write one side's point of view first. Others prefer to write them as a statement/answer, back-and-forth.
4. This poem is designed to be read by two voices. Set up the poem so that most of the time one voice is speaking at a time. At times, both voices may be speaking at the same time. See the model on the back for a sample of how to do this.
5. This poem is meant to be read out loud! Please plan on reading it to the class when it is finished.

### “Opposites Attract”

Batman	Both Say This	Joker
I am Batman.		
		I am the Joker.
I am a hero.		
		I am a villain.
	I have secrets.	
Every day I fight crime caused by the Joker.		
		Every day I perpetrate crimes which are solved by Batman.
	We are total opposites.	
I am humble.		
		I crave attention.
People admire me for my work.		
		People fear me for my work.
I have a loyal sidekick.		
		I wish I had a sidekick.
Without the Joker . . .		
		Without Batman . . .
	I AM NOTHING!	

The author is juxtaposing Batman and the Joker by putting them on opposite sides of the same theme. We first hear from Batman and then the Joker, and their voices alternate as we read through the poem. Notice that, even though these two people are very different, there are some things that they have in common: “I have secrets”; “We are total opposites”; “I am nothing”. If the poem was being read by these two characters, they would say the things they have in common at the same time.

**Now you are going to write your own two-voice poem.**

## SAMPLES OF TWO-VOICE POEMS

### Opposites Attract

Batman

I am Batman.

I am a Hero.

I have secrets.  
Every day I fight crime  
caused by the Joker.

We are total opposites.  
I am humble.

People admire me for  
my work.

I have a loyal sidekick

Without the Joker...

I AM NOTHING!

Joker

I am the Joker.

I am a villain.  
I have secrets.

Everyday I perpetrate crimes  
which are solved by Batman.  
We are total opposites.

I crave attention.

People fear me for my work.

I wish I had a sidekick.

Without Batman...

I AM NOTHING!

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### MISUNDERSTOOD

Girl

I see him

By his friends joking around

I don't understand  
Why he keeps staring at me

I start to stare at his body

Wondering how many donuts it took to look like that

I go and talk to him, I ask him out and give him  
a peck on the cheek

I only asked him out for a \$100 bet.  
I broke up with him right away

I don't understand.  
I put my head down

I am blocking my face from his stare because he's  
creeping me out. Maybe he's thinking about the texts  
my sister sent him as a joke last night.

I don't understand

Why is he so obsessed with me?

Guy

I see her

With her girlfriends hoping and wishing she would hug me  
I don't understand

Why she doesn't stare back  
Then she glimpses at me, I am delighted!

I wink at her ;)

I want her to wink in return and come speak to me so I can  
observe her beauty

I play hard-to-get and say no at first, but I love her too much!

I don't understand

She mentioned she loved me in a text last night.  
Who is she trying to be?

I don't understand

Why doesn't she love me?

## Worlds Apart

### Popular Girl

The morning starts as I strut my stuff down the hallway.

I say "hey" and smile.

School's a bore. I can't take it anymore.

I love my hair and wardrobe.

I count down the minutes till cheer practice.

At lunch I'm surrounded by people who adore me.

Uh-oh! Here come the math test grades from last week.

Ugh! Another D-

The bell rings!  
I say bye to all my friends.

On my way out, I bumped into this sad girl who could really use a makeover.

When I leave I go unlock my car.

As I pull out I see the buses go past and wonder how it feels to be a geek.

### Geek Girl

My morning starts as people trip me down the hallway.

I say "sorry" and clutch my books.

School's so much fun when the bullies are done.

I love my overalls and books.

I count down the minutes till chess club!

At lunch I'm surrounded by people who adore books.

YES! Here come the math test grades from last week.

Aced the test...again!  
The bell rings!

I say goodbye to all my teachers.

On my way out, I bumped into a girl who was way too pretty, and knew it!

When I leave I run so I won't miss my bus.

As we pull out I watch the popular girls speed off in their cars and wonder what that would be like.



Names: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

**Poem 2**

<b>Salva</b>	<b>Both Say This</b>	<b>Nya</b>