

## Planning Guide

### Occasion Poem

#### I. Introduction – First stanza\*\*

- A. The occasion (central idea, setting, series of happenings, or situation)
- B. Significant characters
- C. Set the stage, type of poem, and structure using figurative and sensory language

#### II. Stanzas\*

- A. Identify the event or main idea
- B. Supporting details using figurative and sensory language
- C. Reflections or ideas that contribute to message

#### III. Final stanza and outcome

- A. Outcome that conveys the message of the poem
- B. Insight using figurative and sensory language
- C. Parting thought

\*There is no set number of events or details. Poets may choose any creative structure to express message of the poem that builds on a theme.

\*\*Consider the conventions of poetry

## Point of View

By Alice Schellhorn Magrane

I'm sitting in a leather seat and have my seatbelt on;  
My backpack's up above me.  
My familiar world is gone.

I look up at my father's face, and he smiles and winks his eye;  
It makes me know I'll be alright,  
'Cause he's a confident guy.

I glance out of the window—it's such a gloomy day;  
There's rain and drizzle all around.  
The sky's a dreary gray.

But then I feel something happening—the wheels are turning 'round;  
I hear the roar of engines.  
I think we're leaving the ground!

Then the ground beneath us fades away and my heart is pounding fast;  
We're going high above the clouds.  
This really is a blast!

The pilot's voice is loud and clear, "We're at 30,000 feet";  
This is my first time on a plane!  
It's a feeling that can't be beat!!

But the most amazing thing I saw was the sun shining, dazzling and bright;  
Once the plane had flown over the clouds,  
The sky was blue and light.

So now when days are gloomy and dark, and I'm feeling sort of down;  
I remember that up there, over the clouds,  
The sun is still shining down!

## Planning Organizer Occasion Poem

The "what" and the "who"	First and second stanza Occasion Significant characters Set the stage and structure	<b>The speaker is sitting with his or her father while waiting nervously for their trip to begin.</b>
	Third stanza	<b>The speaker describes what is seen out of the window.</b>
	Fourth stanza	<b>The speaker hears the engines of the plane and shows excitement.</b>
	Fifth stanza	<b>The speaker describes his or her nervous feelings as the plane starts to reach the clouds.</b>
Sixth stanza	<b>The pilot describes the altitude and the speaker reveals that it is his or her first airplane ride</b>	
Seventh stanza	<b>The speaker describes the amazing sky above the clouds.</b>	
Eight stanza	<b>The speaker recalls the first plane ride when things seem gloomy.</b>	

## Revision Checklist Occasion Poem

Occasion \_\_\_\_\_

Significant characters \_\_\_\_\_

Set the stage \_\_\_\_\_

First stanza\*

Identify \_\_\_\_\_

Support \_\_\_\_\_

Reflection \_\_\_\_\_

Second stanza

Identify \_\_\_\_\_

Support \_\_\_\_\_

Reflection \_\_\_\_\_

Final outcome

Occasion \_\_\_\_\_

Insight \_\_\_\_\_

Parting thought \_\_\_\_\_

Figurative and sensory language**	Conventions of Poetry	Specific details

The poem should include:

An introduction that focuses attention on the subject and prepares the reader for what is to follow

Supporting details in a logical order that helps the reader understand the message

Transitions to give stanzas coherence

Conclusion that may restates the occasion in fresh words and states an insight or a lesson learned from the experience

\*No set number of events or details

\*\*Use tally marks each time figurative and sensory language or other conventions of poetry are used.