



Essential Words: LTAB Online 2020

Lesson plans and writing prompts for teens



Perspective

by Ellen Chamberlain

DURATION: 1.5 hours

GRADE LEVEL: Middle School

WRITING LEVEL: Developing writers

FOCUS: perspective

EXAMPLE POEM

[The Monsters in My Closet](#)
by Phil Bolsta

Check in | 15 minutes

The Oxford dictionary defines **perspective** as “a particular attitude toward or way of regarding something; a point of view.”

Think of something or someone you used to see every day. What was your perspective of them then? Has it changed? Why or why not?

Resource Building | 15 minutes

Make a list:

- 2 superheroes (feel free to make up your own!)
- 1 villain
- 5 super powers
- 2 countries
- 4 planets
- Your favorite time of day

Close Reading | 20 minutes

READ | [The Monsters in My Closet by Phil Bolsta](#)

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- Who's the speaker?
- What's their relation to the poet?
- Is there a rhythm or melody?
- Do the melody and words match in tone?
- Pick a different tone to read the poem in. Does it sound different?



Essential Words: LTAB Online 2020

Lesson plans and writing prompts for teens



Writing Prompt | 20 minutes

What is something that's usually scary for you? Turn it into something helpful and write the story!

OR

What do your parents expect you to do after school? Write a poem that rhymes.

Share Out | 15 minutes



Essential Words: LTAB Online 2020

Lesson plans and writing prompts for teens



The Monsters in My Closet by Phil Bolsta

The monsters in my closet
Like to sleep the day away.
So when I get home from school,
I let them out to play.

When Mom calls me for supper,
I give them each a broom.
First they put my toys away,
And then they clean my room.

The Mummy hates to vacuum.
So if he starts to whine,
I kick his rear and tell him,
“Trade jobs with Frankenstein.”

Wolfman used to fold my clothes.
I’ll give him one more chance—
Last time he wasn’t careful
And left furballs in my pants.

When my room is nice and neat,
I bring them up some food.
But Dracula wants to drink my blood—
I think that’s pretty rude.

When it’s time to go to bed,
I hug them all goodnight.
They jump back in my closet,
While I turn out the light.

I’ve taken care of monsters
For as long as I recall,
But the monsters in my closet
Are the nicest ones of all!

[The Monsters in My Closet by Phil Bolsta, The Poetry Foundation](#)