

# INTEGRATING ART IN THE CURRICULUM

## Language Arts: Writing Poems

### Tankas

This short Japanese poem is called a "Tanka" (tahng kah). It creates a word picture and mood. Tankas do not rhyme. Choose two artworks and write what you see, feel, and know about them in the spaces provided below. You may wish to write a tanka about one of your own artworks. You may compose your tanka by yourself or work with one or two friends.

A tanka is made up of 5 lines. Here is an example:

*"Surprised! Storm in the Forest" by Henri Rousseau*

White lightning flashes  
Winds blow through the trees and grass  
The tiger crouches  
See the storm in the forest!  
Henri Rousseau, were you there?

*Title of Painting* \_\_\_\_\_ *Artist* \_\_\_\_\_

1. (5 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

2. (7 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

3. (5 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

4. (7 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

5. (7 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

*Title of Painting* \_\_\_\_\_ *Artist* \_\_\_\_\_

1. (5 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

2. (7 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

3. (5 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

4. (7 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

5. (7 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

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## Language Arts: Writing Poems

### Haiku

This short Japanese poem is called a 'Haiku' (hi koo). It creates a word picture and mood. Look at an artwork and write what you see, feel, and know about it. You may wish to write a haiku about one of your own paintings. You may compose your haiku by yourself or work with one or two friends. Haiku do not rhyme. The first line has five syllables; the second line has seven syllables; and the third line has five syllables.

Here are 2 examples of haiku. Choose artworks and use the spaces to write your own haiku.

***"Bedroom at Arles," Vincent van Gogh***

See Van Gogh's bedroom  
Blue walls, two chairs and table  
Gone now, dear Vincent.

***"Acrobat on a Ball," Pablo Picasso***

Balanced acrobat  
Teeters on ball, sandy beach  
Steady now, sway, stop

Title of Artwork \_\_\_\_\_ Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Line 1. (5 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

Line 2. (7 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

Line 3. (5 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Artwork \_\_\_\_\_ Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Line 1. (5 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

Line 2. (7 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_

Line 3. (5 syllables) \_\_\_\_\_