

WORLD POETRY DAY. MARCH 21

A HAIKU HOW-TO

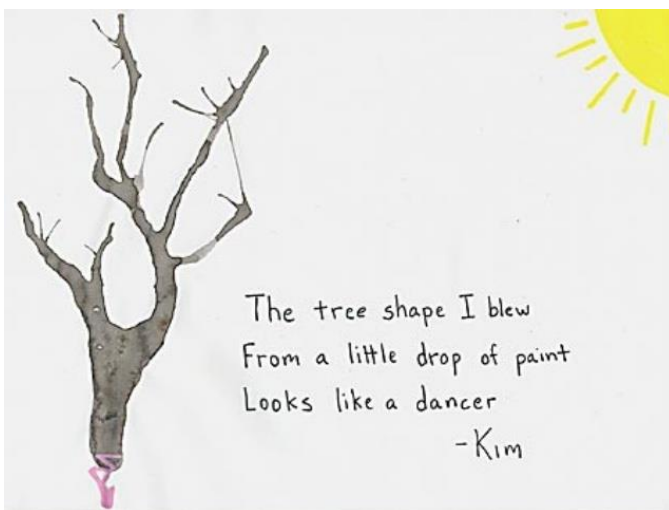
Five syllables in the first line

Seven syllables in the second line

Five syllables in the last line

What is Haiku?

- * an ancient form of Japanese poetry
- * has 17 "moras" which are similar to syllables
- * usually has a "kigo" which is a reference to one of the seasons
- * are written in one vertical line of characters called "kanji" (Japanese words in calligraphy)
- * usually focus on the natural world



The tree shape I blew
From a little drop of paint
Looks like a dancer
-Kim

Here are three examples of haiku poems

By Yosa Buson (1716-1784), a haiku master poet and painter:

(not complete)

**A summer river being crossed
how pleasing
with sandals in my hands!**

By Masaoka Shiki (1867-1902), credited with reviving the haiku and developing its modern format

(not complete)

**The summer river:
although there is a bridge, my horse
goes through the water.**

20th-century haiku poem, by Richard Wright, American poet.

**From across the lake,
Past the black winter trees,
Faint sounds of a flute.**

NOW YOU ! Write a haiku.

MARCH 21. 2022