



I Will Change – Student Sheet

This is a list poem which repeats a particular word or line. The repetition of the line *I will change* adds to the certainty and defiance of your various declarations!

What you claim to be changing to can be honest, can be serious, can be amusing, can be outrageous and can be anything you choose.

Model Start

The *I Will Change* model list poem illustrates ideas for your own writing.

For example:

The opening two *I will change* lines play with the idea of someone trying to stop you from changing: the first one passive and the second showing the defiance quite often necessary for change.

The penultimate *I will change* full line plays with the phrase *a flash in the pan* which means a one-off and quick change that cannot last. By separating the phrase and changing [!] it to *not in a pan* you are again being defiant in stressing the quickness of your change but not suggesting this won't last.



Your Writing

It can be sensible and practical to build up a bank of ideas about ‘change’ before you start writing your poem. You can do this on your own or with a partner or small group.

Think and make notes about the following:

- What does ‘change’ mean [use a dictionary]?
- Use other resources to explore the meaning and examples of ‘change’.
- What are actual things or ideas you would like to change: more seriously, it could be poverty; less so, it could be the colour of your toenails.
- Are there other phrases you can consider using and changing like *this or that* – which becomes *this to that* – [think of place...] or a *flash in the pan* [think of what eyes do...!]? Be playful with changes to these.

Or you can write what is called ‘stream of consciousness’ writing and just go for it: begin with *I will change* and follow this with an idea that comes immediately into your head, and keep repeating [listing] this process. You might surprise yourself with excellent ideas that just happen, and you can edit out less successful ones later.