



Creative Writing Messages

Message to Myself Poem

Preparation

Without thinking too closely, make a list of as many features or experiences you'd like to see in your future self as you can. Some of these can be serious – your hopes and aspirations – but this is a chance to be as outrageous as you can.

Therefore, in the following poem illustration, here are two 'serious' ideas, but even these are varied:

1. to have *passed all your exams* [mentioning English, of course] which is perfectly reasonable
2. to have *scored a thousand goals* [or any other sporting achievement], but this is exaggerated – and could have been even more so if you wanted

The more adventurous idea is something like referring to a *trip to Mars*, the one phrase *returned from* suggesting it will have been a definite experience.

By not thinking too closely on your ideas, you can write down virtually anything that comes into your head, and perhaps get into a pattern of thinking up new ideas. These can then be edited later on: some changed, and some simply discarded.

When composing your poem, you can use the pattern in the illustration: this can help by providing a rhythm to your writing. Try to mix up your 'serious' and more adventurous ideas within each set of four lines.

Illustration of possible *Message to Myself Poem*

I hope you have

been happy
scored a thousand goals
returned from that trip to Mars
passed all your exams, especially English

I hope you have

always washed your hands
invented tasty food without calories
written the book *Homework Made a Doddle* for your own children
fell deeply in love

I hope you have

made up for that big mistake [you know the one]
run your fastest time
stopped changing your hair colour
or
continued changing your hair colour

.....and so on