

● W1 Gap Text: Slam Poetry

Assignment

- A Look at the picture of Taylor Mali reciting his slam poetry at the Bowery Poetry Club in New York City on the Transparency. Describe the picture and your first impression of Mali.
- B The word cloud below the picture contains words from an expert definition of slam poetry. Try to reconstruct the text below using the words from the word cloud. Remember this definition when writing/performing your own slam poems.

Slam poetry, in particular, lends itself to (1) _____

(2) _____ because that is exactly why

it was (3) _____ in the first place. These

guys and gals produce (4) _____ that, as Taylor

Mali says, 'hits hard in the (5) _____,'

and yet can be amazingly (6) _____ when

(7) _____ (8) _____. Poetry, by the very economy of

(9) _____, tends to be an amazing game of (10) _____

(11) _____, where (12) _____ are

required to ascertain not only the written (13) _____ but also to read between the

(14) _____ in a literal sense for more esoteric (15) _____.

The great thing about spoken word (16) _____ like (17) _____,

though, is that the speaker can (18) _____ the thoughts, themes, and

(19) _____ in (20) _____ ways through oral

(21) _____. Suddenly, (22) _____ become as meaningful

as (23) _____, and words, chosen for how they (24) _____

in your mouth, actually get to (25) _____ how they were meant when written in

the first place.



Big Poppa E, Big Poppa E's Greatest Hits: Poems To Read Out Loud, Eirik Ott, 2007, n.p.