

Why does so much depend upon that?

How well did these authors explain with their longer pieces of writing?

Inspired by Jack's poem entitled "My Sky" in the book Love that Dog by Sharon Creech, these three seventh-grade writers started with 16-word *So Much Depends Upon* poems (like William Carlos Williams), and then turned them into longer poems and stories.

Read each of the three original 16-word poems. Then read the longer poem or story that was inspired by the sixteen words. Ask yourself, "Did each writer's longer piece of writing explain why so much depends upon their original images?" Discuss your answer with a friend.

Are you inspired to write your own 16-word poem...to see where it might lead?

Nicole started with this 16-word imagery poem:

So much depends upon
Lonely dew speckled rose
Laying in pale hands
Of a sleeping boy.



Nicole's 16-word poem inspired this longer poem:

So much depends upon
Lonely dew speckled rose
Laying in pale hands
Of a distressed boy.
Rain droplets fall upon his tear-stained cheeks,
Reminding him of how times used to be,
Telling himself he can't go on,
Remembering she was the only one.

But now she was gone.
And all she had left him
Was in his hands,
Pricking his skin and making him faintly bleed.
Like his tormenting tears,
Reminding him that he was still here.
When she was not,
Leaving him dying inside.

both poems written by Nicole A., 7th grade writer

Sarah started with this 16-word imagery poem:

So much depends upon
The little silver ring,
Glistening under the light,
Sparkling with diamond's truth.

Sarah's 16-word poem inspired this original romantic story:

So much depends upon the little silver ring,
glistening under the light, sparkling with diamond's
truth. As I kneel down, I feel as if my heart has
dropped into the pit of my stomach.

I think back to when I met him, how happy we
were. As we left for the beautiful island of Hawaii, our
love grew strong. As we walked off the palatial ship onto the wet, wooden dock, the moon

glistened as if it floated behind the clouds, which appeared to cry out to the ocean. The wind and rain whipped my face, and the water made my hair ten times heavier. He looked at me and his smile glowed in the luminous sky.

The next morning we stood on the beach. The smell of ocean water filled my nostrils. I looked upon him and the best man and watched my bride's maids walk down the hot sand. Shortly after, we left for our honeymoon to Oahu for the rest of the month.

The time had come to return home. We packed our bags and began to walk to the ship. On the way we stopped at the coffee shop. He had a Kahlua, and I sipped an iced coffee. It was a cooler day. The rain spat on my head. Thunder roared through the air, and he collapsed.

Now I sit alone at his grave with no answer to why the love of my life entered my soul and abandoned me so quickly. So much depends upon the little silver ring glistening under the light sparkling with diamond's truth –the wedding ring from the love of my life.



poem and story written by Sarah D., 7th grade writer

**Amy started with this
16-word imagery poem:**

So much depends upon
The silver moon wolf,
Running swiftly through trees,
Never forgetting his destiny.



**Amy's 16-word poem inspired this
longer poem:**

So much depends upon
The silver moon wolf
Running swiftly through the trees
Never forgetting his destiny
With a pelt full of luminous colors
And his eyes deep with wisdom
He carries with him a heavy burden
One that will affect his pack and forest
One that will affect the earth itself
Around his neck lies a necklace
Strung with onyx beads of holiness
With a statue of a moon goddess
Holding a parcel within her hands
Running through fields of sorrow
He keeps going
For he knows
He knows that his destiny
Will hold mysterious effects
For him
His pack
And the world itself

both poems written by Amy R., 7th grade writer