Adnoddau Slam Cymru

Ein bwriad yw creu mudiad barddoniaeth ieuenctid yng Nghymru. Mudiad sy'n dal dychymyg nifer fawr o bobl ifanc Cymru, gan roi iddyn nhw gyfleon i'w harchwilio a darganfod eu hunain drwy greadigrwydd, gan gyfoethogi ein gwlad yn bellach. – Martin Daws ac Aneirin Karadog.

Beth yw Slam?

Ym 1986 dechreuodd Marc Kelly Smith y slam cyntaf yn Chicago, gyda'r bwriad o roi barddoniaeth yn ôl i'r bobl.

"The very word 'poetry' repels people. Why is that? Because of what schools have done to it. The slam gives it back to the people.... We need people to talk poetry to each other. That's how we communicate our values, our hearts, the things that we've learned that make us who we are" – Marc Kelly Smith.

Ers hynny mae'r 'Poetry Slam' yn boblogaidd ledled America, gwledydd Ynys Prydain, Ewrop a nifer o wledydd eraill y byd. Tra bod fformat slam yn gallu amrywio o le i le, yn ei hanfod dyma'r drefn:

- Mae gan bawb 2 funud a hanner i berfformio cerdd.
- Ni cheir defnyddio offerynau cerddorol na phrops.
- Ceir perfformio o'r dudalen neu yn ddi-bapur.
- Gan ddibynnu ar y digwyddiad, gellir gwneud perfformiadau mewn grwpiau, neu yn unigol.
- Dewisir 3 beirniad heb gysylltiad i'r beirdd ar hap o'r gynulleidfa. Rhoir marc mas o 10 gan bob beirniad a derbynir y ddau farc uchaf wedi eu cyfuno fel sgôr am berfformiad, ond gall ffyrdd o sgorio amrywio.

Pam creu Slam Cymru?

Mae slam ieuenctid yn ddull grymus o annog niferoedd mawr o bobl ifanc i ysgrifennu'n greadigol, perfformio a gwaith grwp. Gall model y Slam hefyd gynnig strwythr mwy croesawgar i gynulleidfaoedd nac ydy darlleniadau o 'farddoniaeth bur'. Mae slam ieuenctid yn fudiad rhyngwladol ac fe hoffem fod Cymru yn chwarae ei ran yn hynny. Rydym yn credu y gall Slam Cymru godi diddordeb eang ymhlith y to iau yng Nghymru.

Beth fydd nodweddion Slam Cymru?

- 2 funud i berfformio Cerdd
- Os oes cerddi Cymraeg i'w hystyried yn ogystal â rhai Saesneg, mae angen bod y beirniaid yn ddwyieithog(3 beirniad wedi eu dewis ar hap).
- Bydd cystadleuaeth i grwpiau o ddim mwy na 4.
- Dim cerddoriaeth na phrops, ond fe ganiateir defnyddio cynghanedd!
- Bydd pob tîm yn gorfod paratoi **2** gerdd, a rhaid i **1** gerdd fod am **Gymru**, ym mha bynnag ffordd yr hoffem ddefnyddio'r thema.

- Yn ogystal â hogi dawn berfformio, bydd pwyslais mentoriaid Slam Cymru ar ddatblygu dawn dweud yn ysgrifenedig, cyn i'r dweud hwnnw gyrraedd y llwyfan. Felly dylai'r cerddi allu dal eu tir ar bapur.

Fel arloeswyr y Slam Ieuenctid yng Nghymru, mae gyda ni gyfle gwych i ailddiffinio'r ffurf. Mae'r Slam wedi dod braidd yn dreuliedig yn yr Unol Daleithiau, gyda sawl eflen allweddol yn dod yn gyffredin i'r rhan fwyaf o berfformiadau. E.E.

- Dechrau ar rhythm araf gan gyflymu tuag at *grescendo* trymlwythog o emosiwn
- Gweiddi
- Dewis pwnc aruthrol o ddwys i geisio taro calonnau'r gynulleidfa (h.y. syndrom plentyn yn cael ei ladd)

Mae gyda ni gyfle gwych i gyfrannu i'r sîn Slam Ieuenctid ryngwladol drwy annog ein beirdd i osgoi'r clichés hyn, tra'n creu cerddi llafar trawiadol.
Rydyn ni'n gobeithio y gall Slam Cymru greu barddoniaeth sydd ddim yn dibynnu'n ormodol ar rym y perfformiad er mwyn cael effaith, ond cryfder yr iaith a'r dweud ar bapur ac ar lafar.

Tîmau Slam Cymru
Mi fydd tîmau yn cynnwys hyd at 4 person ifanc ar y llwyfan. Awgrymir dewis tîm o 6 pherson fesul cerdd, gyda 2 berson yn eilyddion rhag ofn bod un o'r 4 yn methu perfformio. Gall y broses o ddewis aelodau tîmau fod yn anodd gan bod tebygrwydd y bydd yna rai pobl ifanc yn cael eu siomi o beidio â chael eu cynnwys. Yn ogystal felly â dewis 4 aelod craidd y tîm a'u heilyddion, rydym yn awgrymu eich bod yn tynnu pobol ifanc eraill mewn i gyfrannu mewn amryw o ffyrdd, o fod yn is-gyfarwyddwyr, steilwyr gwallt/colur, ffotograffwyr, technegwyr fideo a sain…unrhyw rôl all fod o gymorth i greu perfformiad. Nid oes rhaid i'r cerddi gael eu creu gan y rhai sy'n eu perfformio. Gofynnwn i chi yn garedig i beidio ag ysgrifennu'r cerddi eich hunain. Mae golygu a drafftio cerddi yn iawn, ond gochelwch rhag croesi'r ffin o'r fan honno i fod yn creu eich hunan.

Digwyddiadau Slam Cymru
Mi fydd timau ar gyfer gogledd Cymru a De Cymru(6 a 6). Mi fydd pob digwyddiad yn cynnwys 2 rhagbrawf o 3 thîm yr un, a fydd oll yn perfformio 2 gerdd. Bydd y rhagbrawf felly yn cynnwys 2 rownd o un gerdd fesul tîm. Ar ddiwedd y rhagbrawf bydd y sgôr o'r 2 rownd yn cael eu hadio a bydd y ddau dîm sy'n sgorio uchaf yn mynd drwodd i'r ornest gyn-derfynol(sy'n cynnwys 4 tîm). Bydd y rownd gyn-derfynol yn digwydd ar yr un noson ar ffurf 1 rownd. Bydd y ddau dîm sydd â'r sgôr uchaf yn mynd drwodd i Ffeinal Slam Cymru yng Nghaerdydd. Bydd gwahoddiad i bob tîm a gystadlodd i ddod i Gaerdydd ar gyfer digwyddiad fydd ar hyd diwrnod cyfan, yn cynnwys gweithdai, perfformiadau yn ogystal â'r ffeinal ei hunan. Mi fydd y rownd derfynol yn para 2 rownd, fel y rowndiau blaenorol.

Gweithdai

Bydd mentoriaid yn cael eu cyflogi i weithio gyda grwpiau ieuenctid ledled Cymru i ddatblygu timau slam dros bedwar gweithdy(hyd gweithdy?).
Bydd y gweithdai yn:

- Rhoi cyflwyniad i'r bobl ifanc o beth yw slam, barddoniaeth a'r gwahanol ffurfiau.
- Cynnig arweiniad, syniadau ac anogaeth i grwpiau ac unigolion drwy'r broses o greu cerdd
- Datblygu perfformiadau hyderus a chyffrous o'r cerddi a greuwyd
- Cynnwys gemau a thechnegau all hwyluso'r gwaith a rhoi mwynhad i'r bobl ifanc o greu barddoniaeth a defnyddio'r dychymyg

Gweithgareddau ar gyfer gweithdai:

- Gwario'r geiriau ('Morning pages') – dechrau drwy sgrifennu yn hollol rydd pa bynnag feddyliau sydd gan bob unigolyn, ar ffurf cerdd neu mewn rhyddiaeth er mwyn gollwng unrhyw bryderon, rhwystredigaethau, blinderau, a/neu negyddiaeth i'r dudalen. Gellir dewis rhannu'r cynnwys gyda'r grwp neu beidio.
- Map meddwl – mae hel syniadau cyn cychwyn wastad yn help i benderfynnu ar gyfeiriad y gerdd, ac yn bwysicach pa gyfeiriadau i beidio â mynd tuag atynt, neu ba eiriau i beidio eu cynnwys yn ogystal â geiriau, ymadroddion, delweddau, odlau, seiniau a syniadau sy'n addas i'r gwaith.
- Cyfansoddi ar y cyd fel grwp - cyfle i bawb gyfrannu heb deimlo pwysau arnyn nhw yn unig(yr unigolyn) a thrafod gan ddrafftio cerdd wrth fynd ymlaen
- Amser tawel i sgrifennu yn unigol - hyn ar ôl cael cyfarwyddyd a bod pawb yn hapus i fwrw mlaen â'r dasg
- Creu ar y cyd-rhwng grwpiau llai heb ymyrraeth y mentor i gychwyn – mae hyn yn caniatáu cyfeiriad democrataidd o ran y cyd-weithio ac yn ffordd o feithrin cytundeb rhwng unigolion. Mentor wedyn yn gallu camu mewn i gynnig cyfeiriad neu gyfarwyddyd, neu gadw'r heddwch!
- Ail-ddrafftio/mireinio – prin iawn yw'r adegau pan fo cerdd yn orffenedig ar yr ymgais gyntaf i'w chreu

Gemau:

Brwydr Odli
Ysgrifennu ar fwrdd gwyn neu 'flipchart'. Penderfynnu ar odl,(fel –O, neu –el). Rhowch ddau dîm o'r un nifer mewn dwy rhes bob ochr i'r bwrdd. Dechreua'r gêm gyda'r person cyntaf ar bob res yn cynnig gair sydd ar yr odl, ac os yn gywir yn mynd i gefn y rhes. Y nesaf i gynnig gair am yn ail fesul tîm ac yn y blaen. Os nad yw rhywun yn gallu cynnig odl gywir, neu odl o gwbwl, maen nhw'n eistedd lawr. Y tîm gyda mwyaf o bobl sy'n dal i sefyll sy'n ennill. Nodir pob gair a gynigir ar y bwrdd fel nad oes ail-adrodd, gan bod ail-adrodd gair a ddywedwyd eisioes yn golygu eistedd I lawr. Dylid rhoi terfyn amser o ryw 5 eiliad i bawb feddwl am odl yn eu tro.

Pasio'r Papur
Mae gan bawb ddarn o bapur a phen. Mae pawb yn ysgrifennu llinell ar frig y dudalen a'i phasio ymlaen(e.e. Mae Hen Wlad fy Nhadau..). Mae pawb wedyn yn ysgrifennu llinell mewn ymateb o dan y llinell gyntaf(heb odli), yna plygu'r papur i guddio'r llinell gyntaf a'i basio ymlaen. Ailadroddwch hyn am gyfnod sy'n ymddangos yn addas. Agorwch bob darn o bapur a darllen y cerddi.
Gall hyn barhau drwy ofyn i bawb ddewis eu hoff linell o'u tudalen a'i ddarllen mewn dilyniant. Pa gyfuniad o'r dilyniant sydd orau?
Pawb i ddweud eu lein ac yna ei ail adrodd e gyda'r person nesaf hefyd yn dweud y llinell ar yr un pryd. Gall hyn ddatblygu gwaith tîm a siarad fel un, yn ogystal â bod yn ffordd gyflym o greu cerdd.

Cwis
Cwis tafarn wedi ei seilio ar gerdd. Dechrau gan rannu'r grwp mewn i dîmau. Gofyn iddynt feddwl am enw i bob tîm a meddwl am sain *buzzer* i'w tîm. Yna perfformio cerdd a gofyn cwestiynau ar y gerdd. Dechreuwch gyda chwestiynau hawdd am 1 marc ac yna ewch yn ddyfnach/anoddach eich cwestiynau gan gynnig mwy o bwyntiau. Byddwch yn barod i weld rhai plant neu bobl ifanc yn mynd yn gystadleuol. Cofiwch mai hwyl yw hyn i fod.

Gêm Gyfri
Gwnewch gylch mawr o gadeiriau yn wynebu mewn. O fewn y cylch hwnnw rhowch gylch o 5 cadair yn wynebu mas. Mae'r tîm yn y canol yn gorfod cyfri o 1 i 10 yn unigol heb i ddau berson ddweud yr un rhif. Os dywed 2 berson yr un rhif ar yr un pryd yna rhaid dechrau o'r dechrau a cheisio cyrraedd 10 eto. Pan fod tîm yn cyrraedd 10 yn llwyddiannus, yna rhoir tro i'r tîm nesaf. Mae'r rhai sy'n eistedd yn y cylch mawr yn ddyfarnwyr. Gellir chwarae'r gêm gyda dosbarth cyfan gan osod pobl i eistedd/sefyll ar hap a gofyn i bawb gyfri lawr o nifer y dosbarth(dywedwch 27) i 0. Mae'r gêm yma yn wych i grwpiau sy'n ei chael yn anodd canolbwyntio neu wrando ar ei gilydd.

Themáu Posib:
Cymru Ddoe, Heddiw ac yfory.
Addysg
Perthnasau teuluol, cariadus a rhwng ffrindiau
Technoleg
Tyfu
Iaith
Anghyfiawnderau yng Nghymru neu drwy'r byd
Camdriniaeth
Tlodi/Cyfoeth
Hunaniaeth

Lleoliad: Ysgol Llanslam	Dyddiad: 2.2.15 Dechrau: 3.30pm Hyd: 90mins	Sesiwn 1 o 4 Nifer cyfranogwyr: 15 Oedran: 15/16 yrs
Amcanion	Sefydlu Grwp Adnabod anghenion cyfranogwyr Cyflwyno'r Slam Codi hyder ac awydd Cael Hwyl	
Nodau	Erbyn diwedd y seisynau bydd cyfranogwyr yn/wedi: Teimlo'n hyderus i gymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau grwp Ysgrifennu'n greadigol Siarad o flaen y grwp cyfan Gwybod beth yw Slam Dangos gwerthfawrogiad o'r sesiwn Dangos awch i barhau â'r prosiect	
Dulliau	Gweithgareddau torri'r iâ Sbardun i ysgrifennu'n greadigol Ymarfer Ysgrifennu'n greadigol Trafodaeth	
Adnoddau	Ystafel â byrddau a chadeiriau Room with chairs and tables (rhoi'r byrddau yn un bloc) Papur a phens	
Amserlen	0-20min: Torri'r Iâ 20-30min: Perfformio un o'r darnau, neu chwarae clip fideo trafod y prosiect 30-45min: Sbardun Ysgrifennu 45-65min: Ymarfer Ysgrifennu Unigol 65-80min Feedback / Discuss 80-90min Asesiad	Gêm Enwau Cyfri lawr Ymglymu! Gêm Pasio'r Papur Gellir gosod thema, llinell, neu beidio Pawb i gyfrannu ambell sylw am y prosiect

Cynghorion ar Berfformio:

Techneg Meic: Mi fydd pob slam yn defnyddio 4 meicroffôn un-cyfeiriad ar stands. Os gwelwch yn dda, ceisiwch ymarfer hyn gyda'r grwp. Addasu taldra stand. Sylwi ar bellter o'r meic. Holwch yr ysgol am adnoddau sain.

Rhythm ac Amseriad: Mae *crescendo* mewn darnau slam clasurol. Er bod hyn bellach yn beth treuliedig, mae'n dal i fod yn effeithiol. Sut allwn ni chwildroi hyn? Sut allwn ni ddefnyddio rhythm a mydr greu iaith gerddorol?

Ymarfer: Mae dysgu cerddi o gof yn fwy effeithiol, ond nid yw'n angerheidiol.

Siarad fel un: Rhan fawr o ddarnau grâp yw cyd-siarad. Rhoir darnau ar y cyd mewn **BOLD** – mae hyn hefyd o gymorth wrth nodi newid o lais i lais. Mae'n genre gwahanol sy'n ymylu ar fod yn ddram fach, ond gall fod yn effeithiol iawn.

Lincs Fideo:
Marc Kelly Smith, sefydlwr y Slam cyntaf wrth ei waith:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSQqicjELRY

Rownd derfynol yr US National Youth Slam 2014
http://youthspeaks.org/bravenewvoices/watch-bnv-2014/

Trêlar i ffilm ddogfen gan awduron ifanc Chicago 'Louder than a Bomb'
www.youtube.com/watch?v=81hXGdFF6TQ

Darn dramatig iawn gan The Steinmenauts o ffilm 'Louder than a Bomb'
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VGGmJBEiC0Q
*"It's impossible to be unmoved by these school kids, some from badly broken homes, who eloquently reveal their inner emotions on stage with "poetry slam". The spoken-word competition climaxes with the largest high-school slam in the world, with competitors from clubs around the country. It's a get-up-and-clap kind of movie."—**Tim Basham***

Darn clasurol gan grwp o Awduron Ifanc Leeds yn Brave New Voices 2009
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nThh0PxTeKg

Tonya Ingram, Pencampwraig Slam Efrog Newydd, "Thirteen"
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zbS9yNSQyAA

Slam Cymru Resources

Our aim is to create a youth poetry movement in Wales. A movement that will engage large numbers of young people in Wales, giving them opportunities to explore and discover themselves through creativity, and enrich our country further. – Martin Daws and Aneirin Karadog

What is a Slam?

In 1986 Marc Kelly Smith started the first Poetry Slam in Chicago, with the aim of taking poetry back to the people.

"The very word 'poetry' repels people. Why is that? Because of what schools have done to it. The slam gives it back to the people.... We need people to talk poetry to each other. That's how we communicate our values, our hearts, the things that we've learned that make us who we are" – Marc Kelly Smith.

Since then, Poetry Slam has exploded in the United States, here in Britain, parts Europe and every continent in the world. Whilst the format of slams can vary from place to place, in essence a slam usually goes by the following rules:

- Each performance should last no more than 3 minutes
- No musical instruments or props are allowed
- Poets can perform using paper or memorise the work
- Depending on the slam, poets can perform in groups or as individuals
- 3-5 unbiased judges are chosen randomly from the audience, and give marks out of 10 for each performance

Why do Slam Cymru?

Youth Slam is a hugely powerful method of engaging large numbers of young people in creative writing, performance and group work. The slam model also provides a structure more accessible for audiences than a "pure" poetry reading/performance. Youth Slam is an international youth movement and we would like to represent Wales as part of that.
We think that Slam Cymru has the potential to stimulate a wide spread upsurge in interest among young people in Wales.

What are the Features of Slam Cymru?

- 2 minutes to perform a poem (with 15sec grace period)
- If there are Welsh language poems to be performed as well as English language poems, then judges need to be bilingual(3 randomly chosen).
- The teams will perform as groups of up to 4 poets on stage
- No music or props, but cynghanedd and rhyming is allowed!
- Each team needs at least 2 poems, one of which **must** be on the theme of Wales

- As well as nurturing performing talents, Slam Cymru mentors will also put emphasis on creating works of well written quality, before the poems get to the stage. So, we should have works that stand up on the page.

As pioneers of youth slam in Wales we have a great opportunity to reinvent the form. Slam has become very generically constrained in the USA, with several key elements becoming standard:

- working from a slow paced beginning into a fast talking, emotionally charged crescendo
- shouting
- picking traumatic subject matter to hit the audiences empathy button's hard is used to create impact (i.e *child getting murdered syndrome*)

We have a great opportunity to contribute to the international youth slam movement through encouraging our poets to avoid these cliches, while still creating compelling spoken word.
We hope Slam Cymru can create writing that does not overly rely on the power of it's performance for effect, but the strength of its language both as written and performed.

Slam Cymru Teams
Teams will feature up to 4 young people on stage at a time. We recommend that you select a team of 6 young people per poem, with 2 people acting as substitutes should someone not be able to perform. The selection process for the teams can be difficult as it can involve disappointing young people who don't get selected. We recommend that in addition to the substitute roles you enlist young people who aren't performing to act as photographers, videographers, assistant directors, make up artists, stylists.... Any of the many roles that can contribute to a performance. The poems that are performed do not have be written exclusively by the young people performing them. Please, do not write the poems yourselves. It's okay to help with editing, but don't be tempted to write parts of the poem yourself.

The Slam Cymru Events
There will be a North Wales and South Wales Slam. Each slam will feature 6 teams who will all perform two poems. The event will be structured with 2 rounds. At the end of the event the scores from both rounds will be added up and and the highest 2 scoring teams will qualify for the National Slam Final in Cardiff. All teams will be invited to the day long event which will feature workshops and performances in addition to the Slam Cymru Final. The Final will run over 2 rounds the same as before.

Workshops:
Mentors will be employed to work with youth groups throughout Wales to develop Slam teams over 4 workshops. The duration of the workshops should be at least 2 hours each.

Workshops will:

- Give an introduction to Slam, to performance and other forms of poetry
- Offer guidance, ideas and encouragement to groups and individuals through the process of creating a poem.

- Develop confident and exciting performances of the poems written
- Included games and techniques that can facilitate the work and give enjoyment of poetry and using the imagination to young people

Activities for Workshops:

- Morning Pages – Writing totally freely in prose or in poetry whatever thoughts come to the writers' minds, in order to let go of any worries, frustrations, tiredness or negativity. Young people can choose to share their writings with the group, or not.
- Free write - free writing on a series of subjects. 3 minutes on each subject (heart, father, blood, sky...)
- Mind Map – Collating ideas before starting a poem always helps, in order to choose a direction for the poem, and more importantly, which directions to not go to with the poem, or which words to use or not use, as well as collecting sayings, words, ideas, rhymes and imagery that can be useful.
- Composing as a group – an opportunity for all to participate without feeling pressure on themselves only (the individual)
- Quiet time to write as individuals – this after all have been given clear directions and are happy to press on with the task
- Cooperation between smaller groups without the mentors guidance at first – this allows for a democratic approach and builds consensus. Mentor can then step in and offer guidance or peacekeeping!
- Re-drafting – a poem is rarely finished in the first session of writing.

Workshop Games:

Rhyming Battle

Write on a whiteboard or flipchart. Decide on a rhyming sound (e.g. "ake")
Two teams of equal numbers line up towards the board(You may wish to ask them to pick a name for their team). When the game starts the person at the front says a word using the rhyming sound and goes to the back of the line. The next person says a rhyming word and then goes to the back. If someone doesn't get a rhyme they drop out. The team with the most people still in after a set time limit are the winners. Write each word that is said down as repetition means that competitors sit down. It is also handy to give a time limit of about 5 seconds to each competitor to offer their rhyme. If they don't say a correct rhyme in time, they then sit down. The others sitting it out or just sat down can act as time keepers for each answer and umpires for any dodgy rhymes or words. Teams may confer amongst each other.

Pass the paper

Everyone has piece of paper and a pen. Everyone writes the same line at the top of the page and passes it on. Everyone then writes a line to respond (without rhyming) to the first line, folds the paper over to cover the original line and passes the page on. Repeat for as long as seems appropriate – perhaps for each piece of paper to pass all the way around the group. Open up the folds and read the poems. This can be continued by asking everyone to pick a line(s) from their page and read it out in sequence. Which is the best sequence?
Each person says their line and then repeats it with the next person speaking the line as well. This can be used to develop skill in unison speaking.

Quiz
A pub style quiz based on a poem. Start by getting the group into teams. Get them to devise a name for their team, then a buzzer sound that they can all make. Then read out the poem and do a quiz on it. Start with easy 1 point questions and get progressively more in depth offering more points. Be prepared for some kids to get competitive. Remember it's a bit of fun.

Counting Game
Make a large circle of chairs facing in on a small circle of 5 chairs facing outward. Get teams of 5 to sit in the middle. The team in the middle have to count from 1 to 10 but only one voice can speak at a time. If 2 people say the same number at the same time the group go back to zero. If the counting goes in a complete circle, or establishes an order that repeats the group back to zero. Everyone must say at least one number in the sequence. The rest of the group sit in the larger circle and act as referees. If they get to 10 the next team move into the middle and repeat the exercise.
You can vary this game by getting everyone to sit in a random order around the room. As a group you will then count down from the number of participants (say 27) to zero. Each person has responsibility to say one number only in the sequence. If more than one voice say the same number the game starts again. Every time it restarts the participants have to say a different number to last time. Both these games are excellent for developing group listening skills and can be used to calm and focus a group who are struggling to listen to each other.

Possible Themes:
Wales, yesterday, today and tomorrow
Education
Family relations, friendship and love
Technology
Growing
Language
Injustices in Wales and the world
Abuse
Poverty/wealth
Identity

Planning Sessions

Slam Cymru Example Session Plan

Location: Ysgol Llanslam	Date: 2.2.15 Start: 3.30pm Duration: 90mins	Session 1 of 4 Participants: 15 Ages: 15/16 yrs
Aims	To establish group To identify needs of participants To introduce Slam To raise confidence and motivation To have **FUN**	
Objectives	By the end of the session participants will: feel confident to engage in group activities have written creatively have spoken in front of the group will know what Slam is will show a positive evaluation of the session will show motivation to continue with the project	
Methods	Ice breakers Creative writing prompt Creative writing exercise Discussion	
Resources	Room with chairs and tables (put tables in one big block) Pens and paper	
Schedule	0-20min: Ice Breakers 20-30min: Perform one of your pieces, or play a video clip speak about the project 30-45min: Writing prompt 45-65min Individual writing exercise 65-80min Feedback / Discuss 80-90min Assessment	Name game counting down get knotted Pass the paper game A series of statements to finish the phrase “my love is like...” Everyone offers a few words on the project

Performing Tips:

Mic Technique: the slams will be miced using 4 x uni-directional mics on boom stands. Please practice how to use this with the group. Adjusting stand. Monitoring your distance from the mic.

Rhythm and Pacing: classic slam pieces have crescendos. Although this has become generic, it does work. How can we subvert this? How can we develop rhythm to make musical language?

Rehearsal: memorising poems is recommended, but not essential

Unison speaking: a big part of group pieces, used to put key parts in bold and also facilitate change overs from one voice to another. It's another genre, but can be very powerful.

Video Links
Marc Kelly Smith, the founder of The Poetry Slam, in action
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSQqicjELRY

Final of the 2014 US National Youth Slam
http://youthspeaks.org/bravenewvoices/watch-bnv-2014/

Trailer for Young chicago Author's Feature Documentary "Louder than a Bomb"
www.youtube.com/watch?v=81hXGdFF6TQ

Very dramatic group piece by The Steinmenauts from Louder than a Bomb film
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VGGmJBEiC0Q
*"It's impossible to be unmoved by these school kids, some from badly broken homes, who eloquently reveal their inner emotions on stage with "poetry slam". The spoken-word competition climaxes with the largest high-school slam in the world, with competitors from clubs around the country. It's a get-up-and-clap kind of movie".—**Tim Basham***

Classic group piece by Leeds Young Authors at Brave New Voices 2009
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nThh0PxTeKg

New York Slam Champ Tonya Ingram "Thirteen"
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zbS9yNSQyAA