CINQUAIN

A cinquain is a five-line poem that tells about one idea, small detail or experience. It has lines arranged by words or by syllables. It has a pleasing rhythm, but no regular pattern of rhythm or rhyme, and can be capitalised and punctuated in any way – or not at all.

Here is an example of a syllable cinquain:

Teapot
Full of kitten
Normally full of tea!
Peaceful purring – should be bubbling
Spouter
Mark Lane

Here is an example of a word cinquain:

Depression
Very lonely
Having no friends
Feeling downcast, frightened, unwanted
Frustration …
Dale McMechan

Jennifer Hind, "Cinquain," *The Royal Gazette*, Bermuda, 2003.

Use the following guidelines to create your own cinquain:

	Syllable Cinquain	Word Cinquain
Line 1 title	2 syllables	1 word
Line 2 description of the title	4 syllables	2 words
Line 3 action about the title	6 syllables	3 words
Line 4 feeling about the title	8 syllables	4 words
Line 5 synonym for the title	2 syllables	1 word

Select a photograph from today's edition of *your newspaper*, cut it out and paste it in the space below. Underneath the photograph write a one-word caption for the picture. Use the caption as the first line of a cinquain, and write the rest of the poem beneath.