

Double Voice Poetry

Double-voice writing is used to convey two perspectives or two people's viewpoints simultaneously. It can also convey two conflicting views within a person as she struggles to make a decision, or a person's reaction to something she is viewing or experiencing. You can present this type of writing in various ways:

1. in two columns
2. in regular type and italics or bold; or using 2 very different fonts
3. with information mixed in with questions or comments about the information (as interruptions)

This activity is excellent for helping student see issues from multiple perspectives and to develop the trait of voice. I have also used this activity as a lead in to argumentative writing and a way for my students to explore two or more sides of a controversial topic.

I've Never Known

My inner voice is barely heard
I've never known

What it's like to live
With a birthfather.

He has

Never

Been there for me.

I have

Never

Seen his face

Love, love, love

Is something I've

Never received

Protection

And love is what I need.

Growing up, I had no father

Father.

His name is Mike,

So I'm told.

Blue eyes.

They are mine.

He will

Always

Complete me.

I wish I could

Meet him.

He is my

Birth-

Father.

My outer voice is mostly heard

But I do know

What it's like to live

With a stepfather.

He has

Always

Been there for me.

I have

Always

Seen his face.

Love, love, love

Is what I get

From him.

He cares for me and gives me

Protection

Growing up,

I had no father

But that soon changed.

My mother married

And so I had a step-

Father.

His name is James.

Blue eyes.

Looks like me.

I may resemble him, but

He will

Never

Complete me.

We've been through

Good times and bad times

He is my

Step-

Father.