



Joe Wallace reads "I Wandered Lonely As A Cloud"



I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud by William Wordsworth

LO: To experiment with performing a poem

- What is similar/different about the three performance?
- What techniques did each reader use when performing the poem?

When performing we can use

- pauses
- tone and emphasis
- volume (dynamics)
- speed (tempo)
- actions

to emphasize, convey emotion, draw attention and engage the listener



Michael Rosen's top tips for performing poems and stories

I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud by William Wordsworth

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the Milky Way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed – and gazed – but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

Experiment reading the
poem in different ways
using these techniques.

Get a feeling for what
works for you.

Go through the poem and annotate (or just decide on) words, phrases or lines that you will use

- pauses
- tone and emphasis
- volume
- speed
- actions

I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud by William Wordsworth

I wandered lonely as a cloud

slow

That floats on high o'er vales and hills,

When all at once I saw a crowd,

faster

A host, of golden daffodils;

Beside the lake, beneath the trees,

Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

pause and emphasis

Continuous as the stars that shine

And twinkle on the Milky Way,

They stretched in never-ending line

Along the margin of a bay:

Ten thousand saw I at a glance,

Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

action

volume

actions

The waves beside them danced; but they

Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:

A poet could not but be gay,

In such a jocund company:

I gazed – and gazed – but little thought

What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie

In vacant or in pensive mood,

They flash upon that inward eye

Which is the bliss of solitude;

And then my heart with pleasure fills,

And dances with the daffodils.

pause and slow