

Dada Poetry

The Dada movement, born out of the chaos of World War I, challenged traditional artistic forms and conventions, embracing randomness, absurdity, and anti-establishment ideas. It sought to break free from the constraints of logic and reason, using playful techniques like collage and poetry to express disillusionment and rebellion. For this assignment, you will explore these Dadaist methods by creating both a Dada poem and a collage artwork

Task 1: Create a Dada Poem and Collage

1. Dada Poem

- Using a variety of printed materials (magazines, newspapers, books, or online sources) select words or phrases at random. Cut out these words/phrases and rearrange them to create a poem that is nonsensical, random and absurd in the spirit of Dada. Glue them into your collage like a poem.
- Do not worry about making a coherent message! Embrace the randomness!

2. Dada Collage Artwork

- Gather a collection of images from newspapers, magazines, or online printouts. (I also have some if requested)
- Cut out shapes, images, and text and combine them on a piece of paper creating a collage that breaks traditional boundaries. Think of combining unrelated objects or figures to produce a surreal or absurd composition.
- Arrange to challenge typical visual connections. Overlap, layer deconstruct.
- Add your poem to the collage.

Embed a photo of your collaged poem in the discussion post.

Task 2: Write a Reflection 100 word count

Reflect on your experience creating the Dada poem and collage. What did you discover about the randomness of Dada techniques and how they can challenge meaning or representation? Did you enjoy the freedom of making something illogical, or did you find it difficult? In your writing, consider these questions:

- How did breaking from traditional structures (both written and visual) affect your creative process?
- In what ways did Dada art challenge your expectations of what art "should" be?

- Can you identify any personal or cultural connections in the randomness of your poem and collage?

Task 3: Respond to a classmate

Choose a **classmate** and respond to their poem! Did their random selections inspire you or lead to any new interpretations? How does their artwork compare to yours in terms of structure or chaos? What do you think their pieces say, even if they don't seem to make sense at first glance?

Resources

Rubric link: Dada Poetry

Example link: Discussion 7 Example

How to Embed a Photo link: Embedding an Image in a Discussion Post

Tips:

- Embrace the randomness! Don't overthink the process; let yourself experiment with materials and words that you wouldn't typically use.
- Collage materials can include photographs, advertisements, magazine clippings, ticket stubs, fabric, etc.
- If you need more materials, feel free to reach out. I can provide some for you!

Important: The quality of your picture is very important. Make sure it is visible but so large that it overtakes the entire page.

- AI Use Statement: You may not use generative AI on this assignment