

INSTAPOETRY: ANALYSING INSTAPOEMS BY RUPI KAUR

– modelling and deconstructing the text –

Info Box – Defining Instapoetry: While “a “form” defines the way a poem arranges sounds, rhythms, or its appearance on the page, “genre” is something like the poem’s style. Many poetic genres have a long history, and new poems almost always¹ try to find a new feature of the traditional style thus inventing a new form of the genre. Instapoetry is one of these new (sub-)genres to poetry. Rupī Kaur is an Instapoet which means she shares her poems on Instagram. Apart from their release platform, these so called Instapoems share more characteristics with each other which you will get to know today.

1. Choose at least two of the poems by Rupī Kaur you like best from the box below. Be prepared to give reasons for your choice.
2. Analyse the content, function, structure and language of the poems you chose. You may use the mind map to structure your findings.
3. Get together with two partners and discuss your findings in your group. Create a ranking of the five most important characteristics for Instapoems.

- I. _____
- II. _____
- III. _____
- IV. _____
- V. _____

4. In your group reflect on your first thoughts when choosing the poems. Evaluate orally if your decision for a poem matches up with one (or more) of the five characteristics in your ranking.

- “thank you” <https://www.instagram.com/p/CjldQfzu-Xs>
- “home” <https://www.instagram.com/p/Cfh1okNvW8D/>
- “together” <https://www.instagram.com/p/CeB83BAurlg/>
- “our souls are mirrors” <https://www.instagram.com/p/CcQyYM8vdZW/>
- “immigrant” <https://www.instagram.com/p/CbgaALtqlAH/>
- “women of color” <https://www.instagram.com/p/CatG3X8sSOr/>
- “power” <https://www.instagram.com/p/CNdioerhenf/>
- “community” <https://www.instagram.com/p/B-LTp6ih0Bc/>
- “balance” <https://www.instagram.com/p/BtACrmZHn4f/>
- “you are too late” <https://www.instagram.com/p/Bqa5LsFHejx/>
- “accent” <https://www.instagram.com/p/BwTHNTLnqNQ/>

The frame has been provided by the free version of Canva.

¹Online unter: Poetry at Harvard. (2022). *Glossary of Poetic Genres*. Harvard University. Retrieved November, 11.2022 from <<https://poetry.harvard.edu/glossary-poetic-genres>> (All rights reserved).