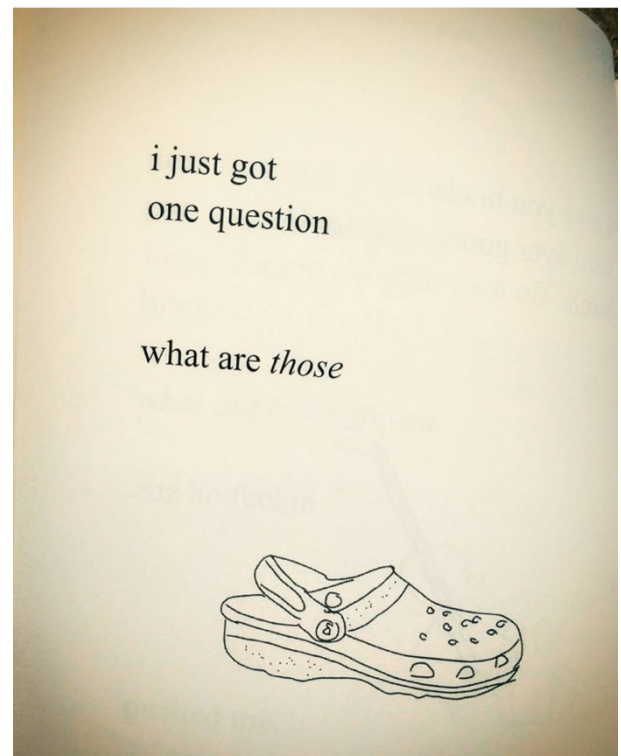
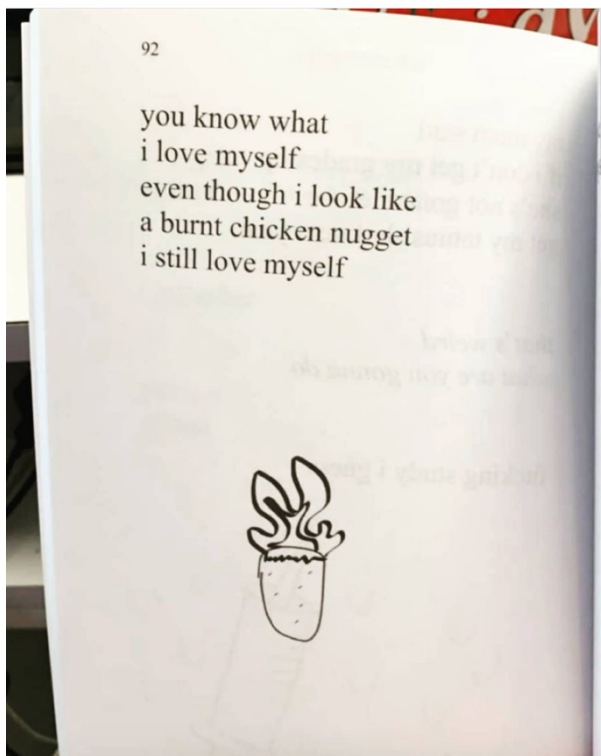


## IS INSTAPOETRY REALLY POETRY? REFLECTION AND EVALUATION OF THE GENRE

– linking related texts–

**Info Box – Discussing Instapoetry:** Instapoetry is a very controversial genre. Some criticize the loss of quality and view the writing products as a shame and disgrace to ‘real’ poetry. Fans and supporters love the simplicity<sup>1</sup> and the free, democratic possibilities of access that gives a voice to everyone. The very successful release of Rupi Kaur’s print version of her collected poems called *milk and honey* caused a viral discussion about whether her art should be considered poetry or not. It also led to the creation and release of the book *milk and vine*. This book contains texts from popular *vine* videos (from the now deleted short video-platform *Vine*) and illustrations that suit the texts visually.

- The following screenshots are reactions of users on Instagram to the parody milk and vine. Relate the parody poems to the ones you read during the unit and name reasons many critics of Instapoetry refer to the book *milk and vine* to strengthen their position.
- <https://www.instagram.com/p/B6n4zXfJdgG/>
  - <https://www.instagram.com/p/Beb-7-anjQW/>



<sup>1</sup>**simplicity** – the fact that something is easy to understand or do (noun)

Figure 1: Wahwassuck, I. [@ishwah90]. (2019, December 28). *Nugg 4 life* 🍌 #milkandvine #mood #wordstoliveby from: @sammissuxx1127 [post]. Instagram. Retrieved November 10, 2022, from <<https://www.instagram.com/p/B6n4zXfJdgG/>> (All rights reserved).

Figure 2: Kurtz, R. [@healthybytes.usa]. (2018, January 27). *And who hasn't thought of this at least once in their life...love!* [post]. Instagram. Retrieved November 10, 2022, from <<https://www.instagram.com/p/Beb-7-anjQW/>> (All rights reserved).

2. Contrast the perspectives of the critics and the supporters of Instapoetry.
  - a. Find at least three arguments each to support their position.  
You may use the help cards as input to develop your arguments.

Either scan the QR-code or click the link below to access the cards.

<https://www.brainyoo.de/Brainyoo2Web/importLesson/WRdKxxDe2fxNZvnmeCQa>



The picture has been provided by Pixabay.

Pro-arguments (supporters)	Contra-arguments (critics)

- b. Pair with a partner and compare your findings. Talk about the reasons for excepting the poems published on Instagram as 'real' poetry and the reasons that speak against it. Make up your own mind on the issue!
3. Form a group of four and decide who of you is taking which of the positions below. Draw lots if you can't decide. Prepare your arguments for a discussion according to your role.
  - an Instapoet
  - a representative of 'The society of classical poets'
  - a publisher
  - a passionate poetry fan
4. Discuss in your groups if Instapoetry should officially be included into the genre of poetry.
5. Share your own opinion with the class and comment on the question: "Is Instapoetry real poetry"?