

This Poem Is Alive!

In the poem "Invocation," George Ella Lyon asks for writing help from the tools of poetry—pen, paper, ink, and words—as if they were alive, like people. Writing about objects or animals as if they were human is called **personification**, and it can make a poem or story exciting and alive. In this activity, you will learn more about personification and how to use it in your own writing.

Directions: Fill in the blanks below and then write your own poem.

1. Find three examples of personification in "Invocation." Think about them, and write how you think the human actions make the objects seem different. We've done the first one for you.

1. O paper, pave the way The paper can make space for the poem to begin. Like a
construction worker paving a long street, the paper will
remove all the clutter and lay a foundation.

2. _____

3. _____

2. Now write three original sentences using personification.

Write Now!

Choose one of your original sentences and expand upon it to write your own poem on a separate sheet of paper.