



Name: _____

Class: _____

Education on the Frontier “Poetweet” (Grades 9-12)

I think that I shall never meet...a poem lovely as a tweet.

1. Reflect on what you have learned about the challenges of bringing education to the western frontier.
2. Select a topic related to being a teacher or student at a one-room school (ie. subjects taught, discipline, daily routine).
3. Compose three separate “poetweets” containing approximately 140 characters. Each poetweet should contain at least one rhyme.,
4. Memorize your 3 poetweets as a complete poem to be recited for the class, (just like they did in the old days!)
5. You will be assessed on adherence to the character limit per poetweet, inclusion of at least one rhyme per poetweet, creativity, and presentation of the poetweet to the class.
6. Share your poetweet in the comments section of our Virtual Classroom video on Facebook with the hashtag #oldschoolpoetweet.

Schoolmarm Owen’s rules for your poetweet:

- write as close to 140 characters per poetweet as possible (you may use the worksheet to help with counting characters)
- remember that spaces and punctuation count as characters, the same as each letter and number (when using your worksheet, include only one character or space in each box)
- normal contractions are acceptable
- you may not use text slang such as b4 (before) or ur (your)
- definitely no LOL!

To assist in your composition, the following may be used as references.

Primary Source:

- NBCNews. “Teaching in a Remote, Modern, One Room Schoolhouse: 70 Miles from Nowhere.” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pq6x-ntrv0c>.
- Instructional Coordinator for Lincoln and Fort Stanton Historic Sites, Tiffanie Owen (Facebook Video-Lincoln Historic Site)
- *One Room Schools: Stories From the Days of 1 Room, 1 Teacher, 8 Grades* by Susan J. Bodilly

To help you get started, here is a sample “poetweet”. Notice that it came out to exactly 140 characters!

You kids have it easy. No need to complain.

When I was your age, back in the day, I had to WALK for miles to school!

Uphill! Both ways!