

What to do today

IMPORTANT Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.

1. Make up some noun-phrases about a favourite place

- Think of a place that you love to be. It can be indoors or outdoors. Write it in the middle of a sheet of paper.
- Try to think of six or more things that this place is for you. Why is it special? Look at [Bedroom Example](#) for ideas.
- Write each of your images as a descriptive expanded noun phrase.

2. Make notes about playing with words

- Watch a video of Joseph Coelho explaining about playing with words.
- Make notes about some of his ideas. They will be useful to you when you are writing your poem.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/english-ks1-ks2-poetry-playing-with-words/zmx8xs>

3. Now for some writing

- Follow the stages on [Developing a Poem](#).
- When you have a poem, write it out carefully.

Try these Fun-Time Extras

- Can you send your poem to somebody else?
- Can you interview people in your house to find out about their favourite place? Can they tell you six reasons that they like it?
- Find 'Watch and Listen' on Joseph Coelho's website and watch him perform some of his poems.

<https://www.thepoetryofjosephcoelho.com/>

Bedroom Example

a magical land of
imagination and
adventure

a private kingdom for me
and my friends

a cosy cave with a
collection of snoozing
bears

My bedroom



a quiet retreat above the
chaos of family life

a crazily creative
workshop with scattered
art on the floor

a secret playground behind
a plain door

Notes about Playing with Words

Watch Joseph Coelho explain about playing with words. Make notes about some of his ideas.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/english-ks1-ks2-poetry-playing-with-words/zmxf8xs>

Developing a Poem

1. Read all of your special place ideas.
2. Look for ways to improve your **expanded noun phrases** (think poetry techniques: alliteration, onomatopoeia, powerful adjectives, verbs and adverbs).
3. Look for words that are not working hard enough – replace, remove or combine.
4. Choose the best 5-6 images and number them – think about impact: keep a surprise for the last stanza.
5. Write your poem using the structure of ***Golden Time***.

Golden Time

Joseph Coelho

Golden time -
jewelled minutes
and silvered seconds?

Golden time
a diamond clock
with ruby numbers?

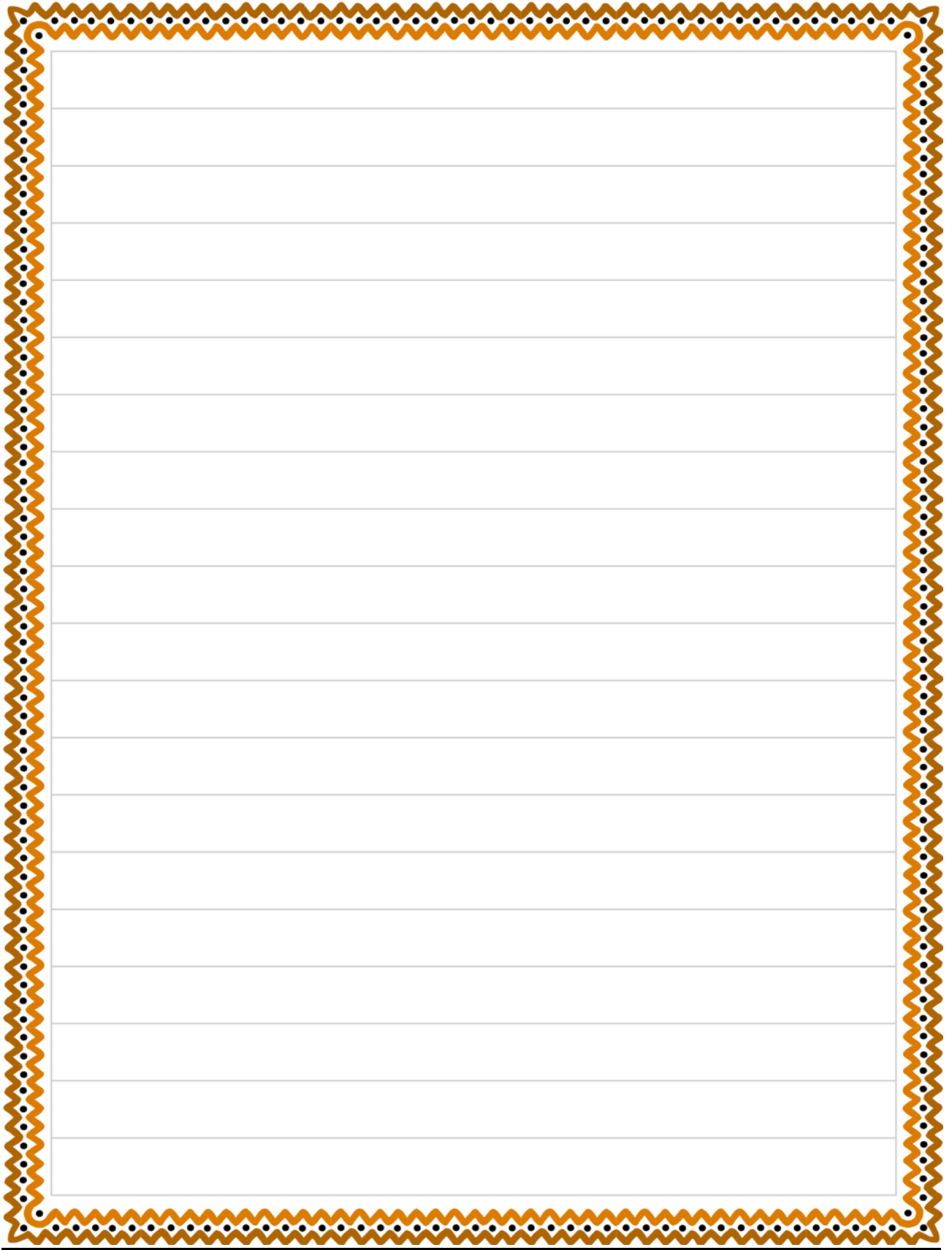
Golden time -
a free hour
doing what I please?

Golden time -
hands clasped on mouth
catching laughter with a new friend.

Golden time -
the inhale of breath
as the idea chimes.

Golden time
a room of beaming faces,
every heart in sync.

Poem



A large rectangular area for writing, enclosed by a decorative border. The border consists of a repeating orange and black zigzag pattern. The writing area is ruled with horizontal lines, providing a guide for text alignment. The entire page is framed by a solid blue border.