

## Module 7: Realism in the Family

### Topic 4 Application: Acrostic Poem Rubric

In this topic, you read Kate Chopin's short story "A Pair of Silk Stockings" in which the protagonist, Mrs. Sommers, finds a sum of money. Instead of saving that money or spending it on her children as was originally planned, Mrs. Sommers goes on a spending spree. With everything you have learned in this topic about the condition of women in the late 1800s, what do you think of Mrs. Sommers' decision? Is she selfish for the way she spends the money, or do you understand and empathize with her decision to enjoy herself?

In the assignment, consider how you would characterize Mrs. Sommers and create an acrostic poem that expresses your portrayal and interpretation of her character. An acrostic poem uses the first letter of each line to spell out a word or a message pertaining to a theme.

Here is an example of an acrostic poem using the word **REALIST**:

**R**egionalism  
**E**veryday events and problems  
**A**dvocates for the welfare of women and children  
**L**anguage of local dialects  
**I**nfluenced by the Civil War  
**S**lave narratives  
**T**wain's use of humor

Using the word template shown below with the word **SOMMERS**, write an acrostic poem that describes Mrs. Sommers from your perspective. Use your creativity and make sure that your poem makes sense and is descriptive. When creating your poem, use the following guidelines:

- Your poem must be based on Mrs. Sommers as she appears in Chopin's story.
- Each line must have a word, a phrase, or a sentence associated with it, so any "leftover" letters are for personal reflections.
- Your poem does not need to rhyme.

#### Word Template

**S**  
**O**  
**M**  
**M**  
**E**  
**R**  
**S**

Before you begin, review the Acrostic Poem Rubric to help you complete your assignment and understand how your work will be graded.

Once you have completed your acrostic poem, please submit your work to the dropbox.

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**Acrostic Poem Rubric**

As you complete your acrostic poem, please review the rubric below to help you complete your assignment and understand how your work will be graded.

	<b>25 Points</b>	<b>20 Points</b>	<b>15 Points</b>	<b>10 Points</b>
<b>Content Accuracy</b>	All content throughout the poem is accurate. The poem remains true to the character in the story.	Most of the content is accurate, but there is one piece of information that seems inaccurate and is not true to the story.	The content is generally accurate, but one piece of information is clearly inaccurate or deviates from the story.	Content is confusing or deviates greatly from the character in the story.
<b>Effectiveness</b>	The poem includes material needed to give a good understanding of the character. The poem is consistent with the assignment as it is written.	The poem is lacking one or two key elements. The poem is consistent with the assignment as it is written most of the time.	The poem is missing more than two key elements. The poem is rarely consistent with the assignment as it is written.	The poem is lacking several key elements and has inaccuracies. The poem is completely inconsistent with the assignment as it is written.
<b>Creativity</b>	The poem creatively uses adjectives and phrases. The poem flows nicely and makes sense.	The poem uses some adjectives and descriptive phrases. The poem makes sense.	The poem uses few adjectives and descriptive phrases and does not flow well.	The poem uses no descriptive language. The poem is confusing and nonsensical.
<b>Spelling and Grammar</b>	The poem has no misspellings or grammatical errors.	The poem has 1-2 misspellings but no grammatical errors.	The poem has 3-4 misspellings and 1 grammatical error.	The poem has more than 5 grammatical and/or spelling errors.