

## INTRODUCTION TO KOREAN POETRY

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9-12

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**SUBJECT:** World Literature

**TIME REQUIRED:** 3 class periods

### OBJECTIVES:

1. Learn the similarities between Korean and Middle English poetry
2. Develop an understanding of modern Korean poetry

### MATERIALS REQUIRED:

- A variety of Anglo-Saxon poetry, such as "The Wanderer" and "The Seafarer," and examples of Korean poetry including "sijo" produced by Hwang Chin-i and Chong Ch'ol.
- Lee, Peter. *Anthology of Korean Literature From Early Times to the Nineteenth Century*. Honolulu: University Press, 1981.
- Selected modern Korean poetry from *Best Loved Poems of Korea*, translated by Chang-soo Ko. New Jersey: Hollym International, 1984.

### PROCEDURE:

1. Review introductory material (e.g. meters, poetics, themes, style, etc.) from the Anglo-Saxon period.
2. Introduce "A Woman's Sorrow" (Ho Nansorhon) and two Anglo-Saxon poems ("The Seafarer" and "The Wanderer") simultaneously.
3. Discuss the similarities of poetics, style, mood and tone of all three pieces.
4. Introduce various "sijo" pieces and discuss the similarities and differences between the pieces and the previous three works studied.
5. Introduce modern Korean poetry as an extension of poetic traditions. Use "Wanderer" (Mok-wol Park) and "Flower Petals on the Sleeves" (Ji-hoon Cho) as examples of modern poetry.
6. Review and list poetic devices common and different in both cultures.

### EVALUATION:

- In written form, paired students will produce several examples of their own poetry modeled after Korean and Anglo-Saxon pieces. Each poem should contain the following:
  - a) pauses, epithets or repetitive phrases, allusions, personifications and symbolism
  - b) development of themes such as love, friendship, time and mutability (change)
- In oral form, students will read/sing/dance their poetry to the class.

### ENRICHMENT:

- Write a report on famous Korean poets such as Hwang Chin-i and Chong Ch'ol.
- Research poetry that resulted from the Korean War and give an oral report.