

## Poem for Two Voices: Instructions

A poem for two voices expresses two points of view or experiences about the same topic. The speakers also share things they have in common. This style of poetry is to be performed by two readers. The poem may have two columns, one for each reader, or may have a third column in the center that both readers speak in unison.

You will begin by using a Venn diagram to record information about Chief Standing Bear and Martin Luther King Jr. These two men lived at very different times in U.S. history, but both made important contributions that we remember today. As you complete your Venn diagram, think about important characteristics of each man: their goals, struggles, and successes. Avoid trivial details, like hair color or height, that are not important to their place in history.

When your Venn diagram is finished, read through your notes and decide how to sequence them. Your poem should sound like a conversation with a beginning, middle and end just like most pieces of writing. Use the writing process that you have learned. Some writers like to write the words of one of the speakers first and then the other. Or you may choose to write "back and forth" in the same way that the speakers will read the poem.