

WRITING TO AND FROM THE BODY

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Discussion - poetry as “an expression of the body.” What does this mean? What impact do our senses have on our experience of the world? How do we capture our experience in language and accurately translates the intangible (ie: emotions, perceptions etc.)

Look at Brian S. Ellis Poem “Letter from my Voice.”

What specific concept that we have been talking about does this poem capture?

Discuss the ARC of the poem. What does that mean?

Discuss tone and word choice. What are the pictures he is painting?

Watch him perform on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TXFe6YGwc0>

Discuss this poem. Discuss the idea of writing from the body again. Let’s create a class definition of what that means.

CLASS BRAINSTORM

Create a list of parts of the body that we can voice. What would they tell us? What advice or insight might they offer? What have we been unaware of or ignoring?

WRITING ASSIGNMENT

Use Brian’s poem as a model and write letter to yourself from a part of yourself. This exercise is about giving voice to part of ourselves we may often neglect or ignore.