

## I am the Poet. I am the Athlete

by Sophia, seventh grade writer

Inspired by I am the Dog I am the Cat by Donald Hall, Sophia created this poem that can be read by two voices. Practice reading this poem aloud with a partner. See if it inspires you to create your own poem for two voices.

The lesson that inspired this writing was found on-line at the WritingFix website.



Poet:

I don't think of winning, I think of making my work my own.  
When I'm writing, my words mean something to me.  
I don't mind of those reading them don't feel the same.

Poet:

I've lost in my life plenty, and that's okay.  
With writing there is no winning or losing.  
At least not to me.

Poet:

My father was never really into the same things I am.  
Neither was my mother.  
They never supported me but they didn't disapprove.

Poet:

I was always pretty good in school.  
Never amazing.  
But good enough.  
I wasn't a popular kid.  
And that was fine.

Poet:

I keep to myself most of the time.  
I do have some friends.  
I just don't see them often.

Poet:

I'm happy with my life.  
Things are okay for me.  
I'm writing like I always wanted.  
I want to grow old this way.

Athlete:

Winning.  
That's almost all I think about.  
I try to involve anything I can with winning.  
Eating the fastest.  
Staying up the latest.  
Walking the most.

Athlete:

I can't lose.  
I just can't.  
I work too hard.  
I practice too much.  
What's the point if you don't win?

Athlete:

My dad's the reason I'm where I'm at, at this point.  
My mom said he was pushing me too hard.  
I think she was wrong.

Athlete:

In school the only reason I even tried to pass my classes was  
so I could be on sports teams.  
I didn't have time to study.  
I had things to do.  
I had friends.

Athlete:

My teammates are like family.  
I see them all the time at practice.  
I depend on them during games.

Athlete:

I'm as happy as I could expect.  
This is how I want to be right now.  
Although I don't know what I'm going to do when I get older  
or hurt.

## I am the Cougar. I am the Wolf

by Alexandria, seventh grade writer

Inspired by [I am the Dog I am the Cat by Donald Hall](#), Alexandria created this poem that can be read by two voices. Practice reading this poem aloud with a partner. See if it inspires you to create your own poem for two voices.

The lesson that inspired this writing was found on-line at the WritingFix website.



### Cougar:

When I am in the mood to play, I bite and scratch and kick and claw until I know for sure that I have beaten my playmate. Then I pounce around to show off my victory. Sometimes things get a little out of hand and nobody is exactly "playing" anymore, but my friends know better than to do something about it, for I am the cougar.

### Cougar:

When it comes time for me to eat, I stalk my prey like any other killer would stalk its victim; very carefully and inconspicuous. I blend into the surroundings so that I absolutely cannot be found. Then when I make my move, I viciously tear apart my victim like there is no tomorrow. It makes an excellent game, too.

### Cougar:

I don't know what I would do without bathing. I can't stand having even a speck of dirt on me; it's like getting mud on a Versace coat. My coat always has to be spotless! You know, you can never be too clean...

### Cougar:

If I don't know what was lying in my bed before I go to sleep, there is no possible way that you would be able to get me to lay down there at all. That's just too creepy.

### Cougar:

Other species of animals always seem to intrigue me, but if they look at me the wrong way, they automatically get bumped up to number one on my bad list. Bravo.

### Cougar:

The only weather that I can stand is sunshine. I hate the rain, hate the snow and absolutely despise the wind! It messes up my fur and things get into my eyes and mouth that do not belong! Plus, it gets cold sometimes.

### Cougar:

My pack is my family and all, but I am no one's babysitter. Sure, I'd help them out in a brawl, but if they get themselves into trouble, they better get themselves out!

### Wolf:

When I am playing a good game with a couple of friends of mine, we roll around in the dirt and bite at each others' fur. Sometimes if I'm hyper enough, I'll start chasing my own tail and even start biting at the air. None of my friends think that this is unusual at all, for I am the wolf.

### Wolf:

Mealtimes for me are no big deal. All I do is hide very quietly in the bushes, make sure I've got a clear shot and then rip through my dinner until I am full. I never fail to get a victim, for I am the wolf.

### Wolf:

I roll around in the mud when I am playing and I do it when I'm not. The only time I bathe is if something is stuck in my fur. I don't exactly care how my coat looks, just as long as it keeps me warm. There is such thing as being overly clean...

### Wolf:

Wherever I fall over after a good, long day of hard work and play, that's my sleeping spot for the night. I don't care about my bed's past; if it's comfy, I'm good to go!

### Wolf:

As long as nobody tries to kill me or get under my skin intentionally, I'm pretty friendly with everyone I come into contact with. Cougars however, are a different story; they have major attitude problems!

### Wolf:

I'm okay with just about any weather that comes my way. Sunshine is okay, but the rain and snow are my favorite. I especially love the wind. It never fails to keep me occupied; it blows the leaves around and gives me something to chase.

### Wolf:

I feel very protective over my pack, but I am not as strict as a Nun at Catholic school! We stick together everywhere we go and we have each others' backs through thick and thin.

## I am the Mouse. I am the Snake

by Emily, seventh grade writer

Inspired by [I am the Dog](#) [I am the Cat](#) by Donald Hall, Emily created this poem that can be read by two voices. Practice reading this poem aloud with a partner. See if it inspires you to create your own poem for two voices.

The lesson that inspired this writing was found on-line at the WritingFix website.



### Mouse:

I am the mouse I am small and timid. I look for food only when I think it's safe. I usually eat grains and berries I find on the ground. Sometimes I go into people's houses and steal their food. But that is so risky I hardly ever take the chance.

### Mouse:

When people come towards me I hurry to get out of the way. Most people scream when they see me and try to step on me. Nothing scares me more than people. For I am the timid little mouse.

### Mouse:

I am scared of everything even my own shadow. I have to be if I want to survive in this world. I am constantly on the lookout for new dangers. There are many for I am the easily frightened mouse.

### Mouse:

When I am in a house I am so scared I can barely think. When I do think it's about not getting caught. Being in houses is so stressful it's usually not even worth being in one. For I am the mouse.

### Mouse:

During the day I try to make myself as small as possible and hide away until night. I usually find myself a nice little hole that only I fit into. I have to rest during the day because if I sleep during the night the snakes can find me. For I am the edible mouse.

### Mouse:

Those snakes think they are so great but they really aren't. I am quite convinced that one day mice will rule the world. I will not have to be scared anymore. But for now I am still small and timid for I am the mouse.

### Snake:

I am the snake I am big and powerful. No one is better than me. I eat whenever I want. I enjoy eating small birds but most of the time they fly away. So mostly I eat mice. They are such little things and incredibly easy to catch. It's so easy it's almost not even worth trying.

### Snake:

When I see a big group of people I go right for the center and watch as they run away screaming. It gives me great pleasure to scare people. They say that I am more frightened of them than they are of me. They are not even close. No human could scare me. For I am the snake.

### Snake:

I am the bravest that there is. Nothing can scare me. The thought of me being scared is so funny it makes me want to laugh. Why should I be afraid. I am the snake and everyone fears the snake.

### Snake:

When I am in a house I am the king. Anyone who sees me runs away. When I come into a room it's vacated in seconds. I do not need food from the humans I am merely there to remind them that I'm in charge. For I am the snake.

### Snake:

While the sun is still up I find nice sunny areas to rest. I like spots on rocks for they are the warmest. If I want a spot I take it. Any place or thing I want I can have for I am the snake.

### Snake:

Little mice ruling the world don't make me laugh. I will *always* be the king and nothing will change that. For I am the powerful snake.