

The Mississippi Poetry Podcast Supplement

Ep. 8: Joshua Nguyen

1. Listen (11 minutes). Play *The Mississippi Poetry Podcast w/ Joshua Nguyen*

2. Write (10-25 minutes, as time allows)

Materials Needed:

notebook, pen/pencil

Writing Exercise: Food Poem

Drawing inspiration from Joshua Nguyen's poem "American Lục Bát For Washing Rice," participants will write their own poem about a food that holds special significance for them. This poem could be approached in many different ways—participants could provide detailed instructions for preparing this particular food, or vividly describe its flavor, or write about when it's eaten and with whom, or any combination of these.

Encourage participants to consider both the positive and the negative, so that they can describe their subject with nuance and honesty and avoid the "romanticization" Nguyen discusses in his interview.

3. Share (5-10 minutes)

If time and comfort levels allow, invite participants to share their poems!

Related Materials:

Joshua Nguyen's website: joshua-nguyen.com/

Joshua Nguyen interview (w/ discussion of the lục bát form):

bit.ly/dispatch_interview_Nguyen

