BLACKOUT POETRY

NUGENT: English 11
spring
WHAT IS IT?

• BLACKOUT POETRY is a way to creatively express using other people’s words, and making their words your own

  – You take a newspaper article, find words you like, and blackout the words you don’t want
  • What’s left behind is a new, original poem
WHO STARTED IT?

- AUSTIN KLEON is a native of Austin, Texas. He was a struggling writer, and realized that he could create great work by simply using a newspaper.
- He started blacking out words and creating poetry.
- He is the author of NEWSPAPER BLACKOUT, and his work has been featured in numerous art galleries and poetry periodicals.
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?
HOW DO I MAKE IT?

• To make BLACKOUT POETRY, all you need is three things:
  – A newspaper, or other type of text, like an old book.
  – A black marker
  – CREATIVITY, and the ability to find something new and insightful
WHAT RULES DO I FOLLOW?

• We’re all using the same article
• Find anchor words-
  – Words that stand out to you
  – Maybe you see deadbeat dad, then make a poem about a bad relationship

• Rules:
  – 15 word minimum
  – Clearly show the path of the words
  – Show me your rough draft
  – Make your black space mirror or enhance your poem