

Poetry Competition Guide

This short guide is aimed at primary and secondary teachers and students looking for ideas on how to enter the competition.

This year's theme:

How can chocolate change the world?

What could I write my poem about?

Here are some ideas.

The global impact of the chocolate you buy.

Chocolate is a global product: its ingredients come from all over the world.

In the rainforests of Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana in West Africa, millions of people depend on cocoa farming for their livelihoods.

If we pay a fair price, cocoa farming families can send their children to school and invest in their future.

Chocolate companies changing the world for the better.

This year marks 20 years since a group of cocoa farmers in Ghana decided to set up their own chocolate company – Divine Chocolate.

Divine is the only Fairtrade chocolate company owned by cocoa farmers.

How does chocolate change your world?

What does chocolate mean to you? What does it stand for?

When you give a piece to a friend or family member, or when a piece is given to you, what does it represent?

How is chocolate a symbol of how the world is interconnected?

The history of how chocolate changed the world.

Cocoa has always been important to people.

Top tips

- Make sure your poem is *focused* on the theme of the competition: **How can chocolate change the world?**
- Fairtrade is about *empowering* farmers - focus on fairness and dignity, rather than whether the farmers are impoverished or unhappy.
- Remember this is the *Divine* Poetry Competition – if you write about chocolate products, don't write about other chocolate companies!
- Artwork and design are not judged; however please ensure your poem is legible so the judges can read it.

Among the Mayans and Aztecs of Central America where cocoa originated, cocoa beans were used as money and cocoa drinks was served at royal feasts.

In modern times, cocoa and chocolate have come to symbolise romantic love and luxury.

What kind of poem shall I write?

You can choose any type of poem you like!

Think about what poetic devices you'd like to use:

- Alliteration
- Rhythm, assonance and rhyme
- Similes and metaphors
- Onomatopoeia
- Poetic language and imagery.

Once everyone has written their poems, you could have a poetry slam in your class or school and have everyone vote for the top three.