

## ASSIGNMENT IDEAS

1. Write a response to the reading which discusses content and delivery of the reading. Questions to consider: What makes a poem or story more appropriate for reading aloud? How much explanation should one include in a reading? How does the live performance compare to the work on the page? Is the writer a good performer of his or her work?
2. Provide a detailed analysis of the reader's performance style.
3. Consider how readings collected in an audio-visual archive contribute to and compete with other forms of publication.
4. In small groups, listen to and offer a group interpretation of a specific work.
5. Rewrite a specific work in another subject's voice.
6. After viewing one of the readings, write down what you think is driving the story or the poem. Then write a short story or poem of your own that is motivated by the same impulse.
7. Watch one of the readings as a group. Assign members of the group to write down either verbs, nouns, or adjectives. Then use this list to spark individual or collaborative stories or poems.
8. Watch one of the archived readings without taking notes. After viewing the reading, write down a list of images that stood out most clearly. Discuss why those images were the most vibrant/memorable. Was it something about the uniqueness of the image? Or was it something about the performance itself?
9. Read one of the poems or stories on the printed page, and then watch the author read the same work. Discuss the different effects the story or poem has when read aloud by the author. How does hearing it aloud change your perception of the piece? What are the elements (i.e. voice, rhyme, rhythm, humor) that help create a good performance?