

UNDERCOVER ZEST · SONGWRITING

# Lyric Expansion Worksheet

A nine step path from a vague feeling to a finished lyric. Work top to bottom, or dip into any step. Object writing is the engine: write freely and concretely, then mine what you wrote for angles, metaphors, and lines.

**Step 1 of 4 · Words.** Use when you have a feeling or topic but no words yet.

## 1 Find the seed

*Name a topic, theme, or feeling. A word or short phrase. Do not write about it yet, just name it.*

**Theme or topic**

---

**Other ways to phrase it**

---



---

## 2 Object writing

*Pick one concrete object connected to your theme. Set a timer and write freely for ten minutes through all seven senses. No rhyme, no rhythm, no editing.*

**Object or prompt**

**Senses to hit: Sight Sound Touch Taste Smell Organic (inner body) Kinesthetic (movement)**

---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---

## 3 Destination writing

*Let the writing reflect. What does the scene mean, or point to? Blend the senses with a little commentary.*

---



---



---

## 4 Angle discovery

*Re-read and circle the strongest images. Choose a perspective and tone.*

What is this really about?

---

What is the unique angle?

---

What metaphor or story is it pointing to?

---

## 5 Word and rhyme bank

List the key words of your theme, then gather rhymes and word families. Tip: open each word in RhymeForge at [undercoverzest.app/rhymeforge](http://undercoverzest.app/rhymeforge).

Keyword	Rhymes and word family

## 6 Metaphor mining

Play in the key of your concept. Try adjective-noun or verb-noun collisions, like wrinkled flame. Tip: CollisionLab at [undercoverzest.app/collisionlab](http://undercoverzest.app/collisionlab) helps here.

---



---



---

## 7 Who, what, when, where, why, how

Pin down the speaker and the stakes.

Who is speaking?

---

Who are they speaking to?

---

When and where is this happening?

---

Why is this being said now?

---

How do they feel?

---

## 8 Organise into structure

*Choose a form and slot your best images and lines into place.*

**Song form (verse-chorus-bridge, AAA, verse-refrain, custom)**

As you place lines, remember: show with imagery, tell at the turns; the first and last line of every section are power positions; let the shape match the feeling.

**Structure notes**

---

---

---

---

## 9 Draft and revise

*Draft freely from your material, then revise for clarity, originality, and emotional movement.*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---