

Generations

She cries out in pain
As though a knife slashes through her **womb**.
A baby cries and takes her first breath and
All at once there is only silence, joy and love in that **room**.

The rhyme scheme is continued throughout the poem. Rhyming is one of the poetic devices I used.

A mother and father in awe of their daughter,
Their heartbeats are like a pounding drum.
The pain of giving life fades into the darkness
As tiny Lilly's hand grabs her mother's **thumb**.

1. A simile comparing heartbeats to a pounding drum.
2. Personification of pain: it gives life and fades away.

In that moment there is no sacrifice, no regret.
Nothing these parents wouldn't **do**
To keep their Lilly safe and happy
Throughout the months and years that **flew**.

Twenty one years pass, and now she is desperate for mercy, too.
For hours upon excruciating hours she cries,
But immediately forgets her hardship,
As she looks into her own baby girl's eyes.

Together Lilly and her husband build a life
With their children by their side.
In the blink of an eye their baby girl
Is walking down the aisle, now a bride.

The time passes quickly:
Twenty two years plus a few weeks more
She holds her **granddaughter** to her chest so close
Like her **grandmother** and **mother** before.

Repetition.

Each generation learns from the one before:
How to bring up children so loving and strong,
To make peace with the past when they can;
Years cannot be brought back once they are gone.

On a night which was like any other,
Lilly was suddenly called home.
Oh, the loss of her cut so deeply
A heartbreak beyond any her family had known.

In the months that followed, a wedding
At which her daughter's daughter was the bride.
Though Lilly could only be there in spirit,
They could feel her beaming down with pride.

Before long a baby was coming,
Lilly's great **grandchild** was on the way.
In no time at all, yet forever,
Late spring of 2002, brought the day.

Like her **mother**, **grandmother**, and **great grandmother** before,
She laboured through the day and night
Until she finally held her own daughter in her arms.
And at once, her entire world was right.

In remembrance of her adored grandmother,
The decision was simple to make.
This baby would be called Lilly,
Her treasured great grandmother's namesake.

Thank you, Lilly. Your poem is engaging and the rhyme and rhythm contribute to the enjoyment. It's reminiscent of a "gallop" which is how time passes sometimes! I would encourage you to use a more readable font: just 'plain Jane' works best for me for readability.

Rationale

I wanted to write a tribute to the women in my life so I wrote about my grandma and my mom - And me. I had a hard time at first figuring out what to write about, but once I had the idea it came pretty easy. I decided the best way to organize it would be by time since I was starting with my great grandma and ending with me. The **rhyme scheme** of *abcb* was easy enough to stick to; I sometimes asked my mom for help with words if I got stuck. **Repetition** of words such as *mother*, *grandmother*, and *great grandmother* have a connection to family and the passing of time and my title, *Generations*. The figurative language I put in my poem was the **simile**, "Their heartbeats are like a pounding drum" (line 6) which I think sums up how new parents must feel when they meet their child for the first time: nervous, excited, awed. The other example of figurative **language**, "The pain of giving life fades into the darkness" (line 7) was harder to find, but I think **personifying** the pain ties into the idea of the parents' excitement meeting their baby.

Your rationale is clear and explores your use of poetic devices and figurative language in your poem. Thinking about why you have made these specific choices versus going a different way is challenging, but if you can explain your choices it will help you in analyzing your own work but others' as well.

Instead of "finding" the answers when you're done, plan ahead and/or revisit, revise, and rework existing drafts so you can incorporate these techniques in. Writing takes hard work and effort and you should expect to make several drafts/versions of any piece of writing before handing it in.

Complete this self-assessment of your poem and paragraph. Your teacher will provide feedback at the bottom of the page.

3.3 Poem & Paragraph Self-Assessment Rubric	
✓	I wrote a poem.
✓	I incorporated at least 2 poetic techniques into my poem.
✓	I have highlighted these in green
✓	I have incorporated at least 2 examples of figurative language into my poem.
✓	I have highlighted these in blue
✓	I wrote a paragraph to describe my poem, including a discussion about the specific techniques I incorporated and how these techniques enhance my poem.
My favourite line in my poem is.... On a night which was like any other,/Lilly was suddenly called home. / Oh, the loss of her cut so deeply/A heartbreak beyond any her family had known.	
I like this line best because My grandma and I are super close and I can't imagine what it will be like to lose her. It will be heartbreaking.	
I struggled with.... Figurative language. Redoing it a bunch of times so I could make sure to get those in there.	
Next time, I will try to.... Think about how to tie in other poetic devices. Like, alliteration or something to make it more interesting and to play with the sound more.	

Teacher Feedback for 3.3 Poem and Paragraph and Self-Assessment			
Assessment		Areas of strength: Your choice to write a narrative poem over the generations has resulted in an engaging poem. The rhyme scheme contributed to the idea of “passing time” and your rationale is clear and provides specific details.	
Poem:	10/10	Might I suggest: Carefully re-read your work for basic spelling and grammar errors; these can impede your communication. Extend your thinking and ‘go deeper’ in relation to why you made specific choices with the poetic devices.	
Paragraph:	5/5		
Total:	15/15 100%		