

“There is nothing to writing. All you do is sit down at a typewriter and bleed.”
-Ernest Hemingway

How is *bleed* used as figurative language?

“Bleed on paper” is a metaphor that means _____.

“Your capacity to revise determines the true writer. Suspect the finished poem.
Your *evil twin* wants your poem finished.”

-Wes McNair

What figurative language does McNair use? What does it imply?

Bleeding encourages you to write the truth as you see it. Do not hold back. Take risks! The first energy of writing something takes a lot of bleeding.

Fighting your evil twin is what happens next. You have to push yourself to hand in work that has been layered and polished. Avoid turning in first drafts.

Young Poets

Write as you will
In whatever style you like
Too much blood has run under the bridge
To go on believing
That only one road is right.

In poetry everything is permitted.

With only this condition of course,
You have to improve the blank page.

(trans. by Miller Williams)
Nicanor Parr

Blank Sheet

I find it easiest to write,
When I sit alone at night
Just stare at the white
And hope for it to light
Up my mind with inspirations
As I blurt out my frustrations

I want to be read
A good story before bed
I want the reader to bend
My spine and send
Chills up my heart
Where I pump out my art

But before I can be read
I must write something with this lead
pencil; instrument to successes
and failures and messes
I have to put my mind onto this sheet
and hope readers can hear my heart
beat beat beat

(student sample)

"Lose Yourself"

Look, if you had, one shot, or one opportunity
To seize everything you ever wanted. In one moment
Would you capture it, or just let it slip?
Yo

His palms are sweaty, knees weak, arms are heavy
There's vomit on his sweater already, mom's spaghetti
He's nervous, but on the surface he looks calm and ready to drop bombs,
But he keeps on forgetting what he wrote down,
The whole crowd goes so loud
He opens his mouth, but the words won't come out
He's choking how, everybody's joking now
The clock's run out, time's up, over, blaow!
Snap back to reality, Oh there goes gravity
Oh, there goes Rabbit, he choked
He's so mad, but he won't give up that
Easy, no
He won't have it, he knows his whole back's to these ropes
It don't matter, he's dope
He knows that but he's broke
He's so stagnant, he knows
When he goes back to his mobile home, that's when it's
Back to the lab again, yo
This whole rhapsody
He better go capture this moment and hope it don't pass him

[Hook:]

You better lose yourself in the music, the moment
You own it, you better never let it go (go)
You only get one shot, do not miss your chance to blow
This opportunity comes once in a lifetime (yo)
You better lose yourself in the music, the moment
You own it, you better never let it go (go)
You only get one shot, do not miss your chance to blow
This opportunity comes once in a lifetime (yo)
(You better)