

## I Am From Poem

Use this template to draft your poem, and then write a final draft to share on blank paper.

I am from \_\_\_\_\_  
(specific ordinary item)

From \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
(product name) (product name)

I am from the \_\_\_\_\_  
(home description)

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
(adjective) (adjective) (sensory detail)

I am from \_\_\_\_\_,  
(plant, flower, natural item)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(description of above item)

I'm from \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
(family tradition) (family trait)

From \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
(name of family member) (another family name)

I'm from the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
(description of family tendency) (another one)

From \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
(something you were told as a child) (another)

I'm from \_\_\_\_\_,  
(representation of religion or lack of), (further description)

I'm from \_\_\_\_\_  
(place of birth and family ancestry)

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
(a food item that represents your family) (another one)

From the \_\_\_\_\_  
(specific family story about a specific person and detail)

The \_\_\_\_\_  
(another detail of another family member)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(location of family pictures, mementos, archives)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(line explaining the importance of family items)

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| <p>Original Poem:<br/><b>Where I'm From</b><br/><i>By George Ella Lyon</i><br/>I am from clothespins,<br/>from Clorox and carbon-tetrachloride.<br/>I am from the dirt under the back porch.<br/>(Black, glistening,<br/>it tasted like beets.)<br/>I am from the forsythia bush<br/>the Dutch elm<br/>whose long-gone limbs I remember<br/>as if they were my own.<br/>I'm from fudge and eyeglasses,<br/>from Imogene and Alafair.<br/>I'm from the know-it-alls<br/>and the pass-it-ons,<br/>from Perk up! and Pipe down!<br/>I'm from He restoreth my soul<br/>with a cottonball lamb<br/>and ten verses I can say myself.<br/>I'm from Artemus and Billie's Branch,<br/>fried corn and strong coffee.<br/>From the finger my grandfather lost<br/>to the auger,<br/>the eye my father shut to keep his sight.<br/>Under my bed was a dress box<br/>spilling old pictures,<br/>a sift of lost faces<br/>to drift beneath my dreams.<br/>I am from those moments--<br/>snapped before I budded --<br/>leaf-fall from the family tree.</p> | <p>Model Poem:<br/><b>Where I'm From</b><br/><i>By Ms. Vaca</i><br/>I am from bookshelves,<br/>from vinegar and green detergent.<br/>I am from the dog hair in every corner<br/>(Yellow, abundant,<br/>the vacuum could never get it all.)<br/>I am from azaleas<br/>the magnolia tree<br/>whose leaves crunched under my feet like<br/>snow<br/>every fall.<br/>I'm from puzzles and sunburns,<br/>from Dorothy Ann and Mary Christine<br/>Catherine<br/>I'm from reading and road trips<br/>From "Please watch your brother" and<br/>"Don't let your brother hit you!"<br/>I'm from Easter sunrises and Iowa<br/>churches at Christmas<br/>I'm from Alexandria and the Rileys,<br/>Sterzing's potato chips and sponge candy.<br/>From my Air Force dad's refusal to go to<br/>Vietnam,<br/>from my mom's leaving home at 17.<br/>On a low shelf in my new house is a stack<br/>of photo albums,<br/>carefully curated by my faraway father,<br/>chronicling my childhood.<br/>I am from these pages,<br/>yellowed but firm,<br/>holding on to me across the country.</p> |
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Adapted from: *I am from poem template*. Santa Ana Unified School District. <https://www.sausd.us/cms/lib/CA01000471/Centricity/Domain/3043/I%20Am%20From%20Poem.pdf>