

Mood Colours and Poetry

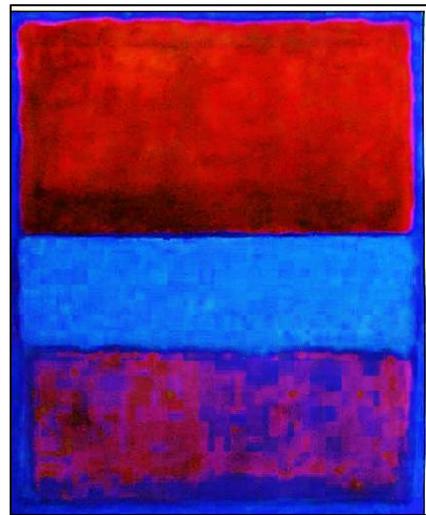
An activity of "Special Machines Help Paint Shops Create Thousands of Colours on Demand"

Read "Special Machines Help Paint Shops Create Thousands of Colours on Demand" (pages 16-17, *What's Up* September 2025). Colours are not just for covering walls. They can also be used to show feelings and moods.

Mark Rothko was a famous artist who painted huge blocks of colour as he believed colours could make people feel emotions. He wanted people to stand right in front of his enormous paintings and experience them from within. Here are four of his paintings.



Yellow, Cherry, Orange (1947)



No 61, Rust and Blue (1953)



Red (1968)



Untitled (1969)

IMAGES: WIKIART

1. Pick any one of these four Rothko paintings. Focus completely on it for a minute. Move as close to it as comfortably possible. What mood do you feel when you look at that painting? Do the colours make you feel calm, excited, heavy, hopeful etc? Elaborate.

2. Watch the following video to learn how to create art inspired by Mark Rothko.

Color Field — Art History for Kids: Mark Rothko. Tepper's Playpen #29

➤ https://youtu.be/jHpjH3sVJUY?si=6Bi27hqNnd_VW-P1

(Tepper's Tots, 9 May 2019)

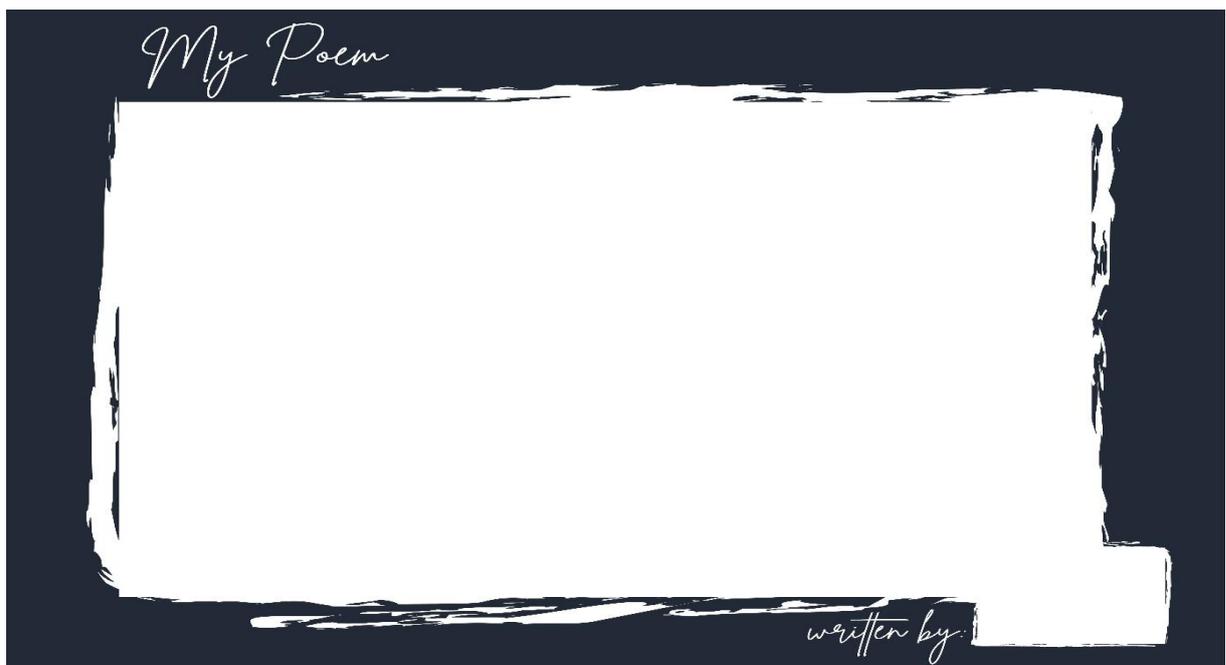
3. Now, create art inspired by Mark Rothko. Guidelines:

- Choose a mood you want to communicate (e.g. peaceful, dreamy, angry, excited).
- Use any medium (e.g. crayons on drawing paper) to create large rectangles of colour.
- You can blend the edges so the colours “glow”.
- Give your artwork a name (Be creative, like the Nippon Paint examples).

4. Write an accompanying poem for your artwork. In your poem, use your senses to describe the colours. You can also use metaphors or similes to compare the colour(s) to something that brings out how you feel.

<p>An example</p> <p><u>Magenta-grey</u></p> <p><i>Magenta-grey is the evening sky before it rains, a symphony of yawning frogs beneath the low rumble of thunder Magenta-grey smells metallic, like a winding highway dotted with blurry headlights and city lamps It is a hot bowl of mushroom soup – strangely warm, comforting, even when you're home alone</i></p>	<p><i>Sight, metaphor Sound, metaphor Smell Sight, Simile Taste, Metaphor Feeling</i></p>
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Try it out!



5. Display your art and poems in a gallery walk. Have fun!