Here, two tenth graders—inspired by WritingFix's *Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow Poetry Assignment*, created the following poems. As they wrote and revised, each poet worked hard on his/her idea development and word choice.

Read all four poems, then work with a partner to determine where you think each poet shows his or her best skill with idea development or with word choice.

**Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow**

*by Keon, tenth grade poet*

Yesterday I flew away
To a place where my mistakes were a distant memory
It's funny because yesterday is a memory
Yesterday was pain which brings tears that fill up like an overflowing
Sea of sorrow and regret
I bet for someone yesterday was love
Yesterday was looking in a significant other's eyes
And feeling so good that at that moment in time you won't spend an
Eternity in yesterdays
But you can't.

Today I woke up and came to the realization that yesterday is over and
I'm faced with its mistakes
Today brings challenge to change, learn and grow

Tomorrow can only be explained as the unknown because that is exactly
What it is
Tomorrow brings promise, the promise of life and death
The promise of greater challenges
The promise of love which may not be tomorrow
But maybe tomorrow's tomorrow
Or if you believe it's worth it

Which I do a multitude of todays, yesterdays and tomorrows.

**Poem About Me**

*by Lizette, tenth grade poet*

Yesterday
Yesterday was an old day
Yesterday, I was innocent
Yesterday, I got in trouble that has to live with me forever
Yesterday, I was my daddy's little girl
Yesterday, I lost someone very close to me
Yesterday, I had cried
Yesterday, I had memories
Yesterday, I was lonely
Yesterday, I made a big mistake
Yesterday, I had a last kiss
Yesterday, I loved you
Yesterday was the past
Yesterday was an old day

Today
Today is a brand new day
Today, is a day closer towards my baby being born
Today, I'm missing my loved ones
Today, love is starting new
Today, I think of two
Today, I wipe my tears away
Today, I'm hyper and excited
Today, I face my consequences of my actions
Today, I love you more
Today is a brand new day

Tomorrow
Tomorrow is future
Tomorrow is a day I can't wait for
Tomorrow may be a good or bad day
Tomorrow, my baby will get bigger
Tomorrow is a day I'll be older
Tomorrow may be a special day
Tomorrow may be a sad day
Tomorrow is forever
Tomorrow, I will love you again
Tomorrow is future
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**Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow**
by Jennica, tenth grade poet

Yesterday is the wind at your back
Drifting by as if hushed by the
Existence of character

Today is a gift
Tightly wrapped in a synthetic
Ribbon, delicately caressing the sides
Of optimism

Tomorrow is a promise of hope
To fulfill the fantasy which has been
Dormant in your mind for quite some time

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**Yesterday; Today; Tomorrow;**
by Janell, tenth grade poet

Yesterday was cold and rainy with the
sun shining on a summer day.
It was a smile that came to tears.
It was days that grew into years.
It was love at first sight, with a broken
heart at the end.
It was new heroes that grew over your
lost ones.
There was laughter that turned into screams and hope and
love
Found in only your dreams.
Yesterday was everything left behind you.

Today is beautiful.
Today is yours but also mine.
I won’t give up a second of it only because I’m slowly dying.
With every day brings another toward my last.
I may find you today, hang my head in sorrow.
Either way, happy or sad, lost or found, today is my day
and I
Will live it better than yesterday because tomorrow might
not come.

Tomorrow is a frightening fairy tale.
It can bring joy or disappointment.
I may become the next big thing or just someone you once
knew.
Suffering is ahead of all of us only because it builds
strength,
But also because you find happiness at the end.
My future will break me down and bring me back up, but at
the
End of this life time I know I’m going to have had something
to live for.