

Turning Prose Into Poetry: *A River Runs Through It*

(Visit Exercise 7 for an example of how to properly perform this exercise)

EXERCISE

Now it's your turn. Using the passage below taken from Norman Maclean's *A River Runs Through It* recreate two poetic versions of the prose passage and then following each offer your explanation of what you think the resulting poetic choice has resulted in. Remember, this is practice with both working with analyzing prose as well as poetry selections. The goal of course is to strengthen your writing by making you more aware of how sentences can be chosen to create various effects.

ORIGINAL

In our family, there was no clear line between religion and fly fishing. We lived at the junction of great trout rivers in western Montana, and our father was a Presbyterian minister and a fly fisherman who tied his own flies and taught others. He told us about Christ's disciples being fishermen, and we were left to assume, as my brother and I did, that all first-class fishermen on the Sea of Galilee were fly fishermen and that John, the favorite, was a dry-fly fisherman.

Poetic Recreation #1	Poetic Recreation #2