

Josie Balka
Social Media Influencer, Poet & Author

1. What inspired Josie Balka to start sharing her poetry online?

- A) She wanted to make money from writing
- B) She had a crisis moment turning 30 and posted a poem that resonated with others
- C) She was encouraged by a mentor in the publishing industry
- D) She saw a social media challenge about poetry

Answer: _____

2. What does Josie Balka consider the biggest milestone of her radio career?

- A) Winning a national radio award
- B) Hosting a solo morning show
- C) Getting to co-host a morning show with someone she gets along with
- D) Launching a successful podcast

Answer: _____

3. What challenge did Josie face while writing her poetry book?

- A) Finding a publisher interested in her work
- B) Having to hold back from posting her poems online before publication
- C) Deciding which poems to include since she had only written a few
- D) Writing all new content from scratch without any previous work to reference

Answer: _____

4. Why does Josie describe herself as "the happiest sad girl you'll ever meet"?

- A) She likes being sad because it inspires her writing
- B) She pretends to be happy even when she feels sad
- C) She enjoys being around sad people
- D) She writes only about happiness but secretly prefers sadness

Answer: _____

5. What advice does Josie give to students who want to become writers?

- A) Only share your work if it's perfect
- B) Always keep your writing private
- C) Write everything you feel, even if you don't share it
- D) Follow strict writing rules and avoid personal experiences

Answer: _____

6. What does Josie say is the key difference between her work in radio and her poetry?

- A) She has more creative freedom in radio than in poetry
- B) In radio, she must remain neutral, while in poetry, she can express her feelings more openly
- C) Poetry allows her to be funny, while radio is always serious
- D) She finds radio easier because it doesn't require as much creativity

Answer: _____

7. How does Josie come up with new ideas for her poetry?

- A) By attending poetry workshops
- B) By asking her social media followers questions and using their responses for inspiration
- C) By reading classic literature and copying themes
- D) By writing only about fictional events

Answer: _____

****Written Response Questions****

8. Josie talks about how poetry helps create a sense of community where people feel less alone. Why do you think poetry or other forms of writing have this effect on people? Give an example from your own experience or something you've read.

9. Josie mentions that self-improvement and being the best version of yourself are important. What are three ways you can work toward becoming a better version of yourself?

10. Josie had to balance different aspects of her career, including radio, poetry, and voiceover work. How do you think time management plays a role in achieving multiple career goals? How would you apply that to your own life?
