

National  
**POETRY**  
Day 7 October  
2021

# APPLES AND \$NAKES

## Semantics

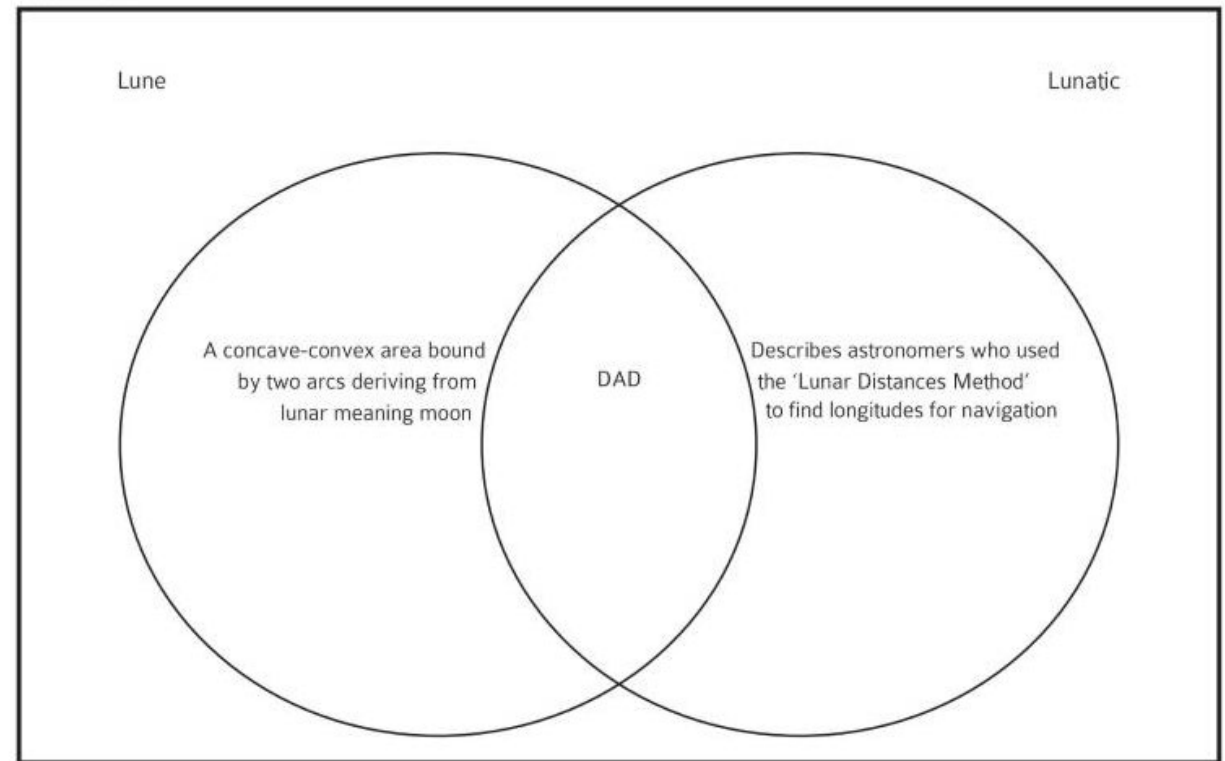
### Semantics

A guide to exploring the meaning behind words and finding connections to inspire writing.

### Key Stage 3-4

#ChooseAPoem  
#NationalPoetryDay

[nationalpoetryday.co.uk](http://nationalpoetryday.co.uk)



KEISHA  
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from *Lunar* (Cultureword)





**Semantics** is the meaning behind a word. In my poem, *Semantics*, I am showing that some words have more than one meaning. These words are sometimes called **homonyms**. This poem shows that when words have several meanings we can **choose** which one we would like to focus on.

*Semantics* is a poem in a series of Venn diagram poems that I created for my poetry collection, *Lunar*. I would like you to recreate your own Venn diagram poem starting with a word of your **choice**.

1. Pick your favourite maths word i.e.: circle, angle, mean.
2. Find the mathematical definition for the word.
3. Find out what other definitions this word could have. Is it a slang word?  
Maybe you have a personal meaning or story linked to this word. Why is it your favourite?
4. Use the Venn diagram form to show the reader that this word has more than one meaning. (Don't worry about drawing perfect circles!)
5. Can you write the poem in a way that shows which meaning you prefer?

### EXPAND:

1. As you can see in my poem I have two words: "lune" and "lunatic".
2. Can you find another word that is related to your favourite word?
3. Look for the various definitions of this word.
4. Think about how the two words connect. Can you use the Venn diagram to show how the two words are connected to each other and connected to you?

### EXTEND:

1. You might want to play with a different mathematical form to explore the idea of choice. Can you put your poem into the form of a decision tree instead? (see example below).
2. Create a decision tree poem that shows why you picked your favourite maths word.

