

Opinions vs Facts

Directions: In this poem you're considering the times you've heard other people say that you can't or shouldn't do something. Contrast that with the ways that you can encourage yourself to try to do that thing and show the doubters that they're wrong.

Chose one of the following formats for your poem.

Format #1

They say/said _____ because _____

They say/said _____ because _____

They say/said _____ because _____

They say/said _____ because _____

They say/said _____ because _____

But I know _____

And I know _____

And I know _____

And I know _____

And I know _____

Format #2

They say/said _____ because _____

But I know _____

And they said _____ because _____

But I know _____

And they said _____ because _____

But I know _____

And they said _____ because _____

But I know _____

And they said _____ because _____

But I know _____

Examples:

Opinions vs Facts

They said you can't play the flute because your arms are too short.

They said you can't wear pants to school 'cause you're not a boy.

They said you can't work the grill because that job is for dudes.

They said you can't be in the play because you'll have to walk home in the dark.

They said you can't be a singer because you're not good enough.

But I know if I practice I can play any instrument I want.

And I know that girls can wear pants, build forts, and climb trees.

And I know that I can flip sweaty burgers and scrap the griddle all afternoon.

And I know that I can be brave in the darkness.

And I know that I can sing my soul into happiness even if I'm alone
and no one else hears.

by Julia Rowe

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They say you can't play basketball because you can't dunk.

But I know that I can pick and roll and wrap around.

They say you can't hang out with us because you're not cool

But I know that I have family and friends who think I'm just fine.

They say you can't ride dirt bikes because you'll fall and get hurt

But I know that I can pick myself up when I fall.

And they say you'll never amount to much of anything

But I know I have dreams bubbling inside my head that I can make true.

by John Jackson