

At this time the public needs accuracy, reliability, and unwavering truth. Here's a "found" poem (a kind of aural erasure poem) I created a few days ago while listening to the president speak to the White House press corps. Radio on and half-dressed, I stopped and took notes—not on the content of his remarks, but on his language, specific words he has used unrelentingly in all his off-the-cuff public remarks since he took office. Without much work my notes became this found poem, language exposing the man the way a child reveals the true condition of the emperor in the famous children's fairy tale. As you know, Trump put Mike Pence in charge of the administration's response to the coronavirus as soon as it became clear that danger was ahead. You don't need me to suggest why the president did this, nor what Pence's words reveal in section 2 of the poem.

*Andrea Hollander*

## In Their Own Words (A Found Poem)

*White House Press Conference on COVID-19  
March 19, 2020*

### 1. Important Words from Our President

Tremendous Incredible Fantastic  
Terrific Great  
Very Very very big  
Very effective  
Very exciting  
No one has seen anything like it  
Like nobody has ever done before  
Like no other president has ever done before  
Better than ever before  
Unthinkable before  
Really really good  
Beyond great  
An incredible success under my administration  
No one before has ever  
Very powerful Very very powerful  
Tremendous  
Tremendous promise  
I think it's gonna be great  
Very good  
Very good result  
It's going to be very exciting  
Could be a tremendous breakthrough  
Tremendous breakthrough  
A tremendous spirit in this country  
A great spirit here  
Never been anything like this in history  
Nobody's ever seen anything like this  
No other countries are doing what I did  
No one has ever heard of this done before  
One of the things I'm most proud of most proud of  
Very very proud Very proud  
Very complex  
Very very complex  
Never been done before  
I really can't say right now  
I really can't say  
Very very soon  
I really can't say

### 2. The Vice President Takes the Mic

As the president says  
Yesterday the president  
Tomorrow the president  
This morning the president  
The president has given  
The president visited  
The president approved  
The president and I are confident  
At the president's direction  
At the president's request  
At the president's  
The president  
The president