

Poetry

Types of Poems:

Haiku: a seventeen-syllable poem with three lines: 5, 7, 5. A syllable is a part of a word that is said as a unit. Example the word Haiku has 2 syllables where the word introduction has 4 syllables.

Example:

The Rainbow
After summer's rain
God's promise is remembered
Glorious rainbow

Limerick: usually light-hearted or humorous with a total of five lines.

Rhyme Scheme

Line 1: 7 - 9 syllables	A
Line 2: 7 - 9 syllables	A
Line 3: 4 - 7 syllables	B
Line 4: 4 - 7 syllables	B
Line 5: 7 - 9 syllables	A

The first two and the last line rhyme.

Line three and four rhyme.

Lines 1,2,5 have the same number of syllables while lines 3 and 4 have the same number of syllables.

Also lines 3 and 4 have less syllables than lines 1,2,5.

Example:

7 Hickory Dickory dock,
7 The mouse ran up the clock,
4 The clock struck one
4 The mouse ran down,
7 Hickory Dickory dock.

Shape Poem: the position of the words resembles the topic of the poem.

An example would be:

A
TALL
LONELY
OAK TREE
WINDS HOWL
LEAVES SHAKE
ACORNS CLATTER
D
O
W
N
TO THE DRY GROUND

Free Verse: does not rhyme and does not follow a set rhythm or set number of syllables.

Example:

Running through a field of clover,
Stop to pick a daffodil
I play he loves me, loves me not,
The daffy lies, it says he does not love me!
Well, what use is a daffy
When Jimmy gives me roses?

Written by:
Flora Launa

Nature Poems: create a poem of your own design in terms of rhyme scheme and syllables.

You must include at least two of the following types of figurative speech:

John Prine: Big Old Goofy World is a great simile song.
(Print off lyrics for the students)

Alliteration: repetition of a consonant sounds at the beginning of words.

Example: Peter Piper Picked a Peck of Pickled Peppers.

Personification: when human qualities are given to animals or objects.

Example: the wind knocked at the window loudly

Metaphors: a direct comparison

Example: The wind is a dancer

Similes: A comparison using like or as.

Example: He is as light as a feather

Onomatopoeia: The sound of the word resembles its meaning

Example: snap, pop, woof, hiss etc.

Ballad: a narrative poem with song-like form usually based on a folk legend, love story, war or loss.

Example: Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald (pass out copy of lyrics to students)

Sonnet: English or Shakespearian Sonnets are constructed of three four line stanzas, called quatrains, followed by a final couplet. The couplet uses *Iambic pentameter*: Has ten syllables in each line alternating an unstressed syllable with a stressed one.

Example: if **mu-** / -sic **be** / the **food** / of **love,** / play **on**

First Quatrain:

Reveals the main theme, idea or metaphor

Second Quatrain:

Theme or metaphor is extended or further complicated

Third Quatrain: usually contains a twist or conflict- often introduced by the word "But" at the beginning of line nine

Couplet:

Summarizes and leaves the reader with a concluding image.

Writer's Block

By B.B. Covert

I sit and stare at my computer screen, (A)

But not one thought reveals itself to me. (B)

I search my mind for some dramatic scene. (A)

My mind's as blank as e'er a mind could be. (B)

I reach for paper. Will the block then break (C)

As I compose my sonnet now by hand? (D)

But pen in hand does not a poem make (C)

And no ideas come at my command (D)

So screen or paper, neither give me aid. (E)

My creativity has gone away, (F)

And I am left bereft and so afraid (E)

That I shall never find the words to say. (F)

Now with a sigh I put these thoughts to ink. (G)

My sonnet's finished. Tell me what you think! (G)