

Poetry



Poetry Book

What is a Limerick?

A limerick is a silly poem with five lines. They are often funny or nonsensical. Limericks were made famous by Edward Lear, a famous author who wrote the "Book of Nonsense" in the 1800's. This was an entire book of silly limericks.

How to write a limerick:

The first, second and fifth lines rhyme with each other and have the same number of syllables (typically 8 or 9).

The third and fourth lines rhyme with each other and have the same number of syllables (typically 5 or 6)

Limericks often start with the line "There once was a..." or "There was a..."

Example of an 8,8,5,5,8 syllable limerick:

STAR

by Kaitlyn Guenther

There once was a wonderful star
Who thought she would go very far
Until she fell down
And looked like a clown
She knew she would never go far.

How to Write a Diamond Poem

This is a good poem format to help review adjectives, verbs, and nouns.

Method

Line 1 - a one word noun

Line 2 - 2 adjectives that describe the noun

Line 3 - 3 verbs that the noun does

Line 4 - 4 things (nouns) that the top noun and the bottom noun has

Line 5 - 3 verbs that the bottom noun does

Line 6 - 2 adjectives that describes the bottom noun

Line 7 - a one word noun that is opposite the top noun

Example:

cat
furry, silky
sleeping, purring, meowing
tail, fur, tongue, collar
barking, playing, licking
friendly, big
dog

How to Write a Cinquain

At the most basic level a cinquain is a five line poem or stanza. Here are two variations.

<p>Cinquain Pattern #1</p> <p>Line1: One word</p> <p>Line2: Two words</p> <p>Line 3: Three words</p> <p>Line 4: Four words</p> <p>Line 5: One word</p>	<p><i>Dinosaurs</i></p> <p><i>Lived once,</i></p> <p><i>Long ago, but</i></p> <p><i>Only dust and dreams</i></p> <p><i>Remain</i></p>	<p><i>Knights</i></p> <p><i>Armour ,shields</i></p> <p><i>Fighting, charging,</i> <i>slaughtering</i></p> <p><i>Worried, delighted, brave,</i> <i>fearsome</i></p> <p><i>Crusaders</i></p>
<p>Cinquain Pattern #2</p> <p>Line1: A noun</p> <p>Line2: Two adjectives</p> <p>Line 3: Three -ing words</p> <p>Line 4: A phrase</p> <p>Line 5: Another word for the noun</p>	<p><i>Spaghetti</i></p> <p><i>Messy, spicy</i></p> <p><i>Slurping, sliding, falling</i></p> <p><i>Between my plate and</i> <i>mouth</i></p> <p><i>Delicious</i></p>	<p><i>Mules</i></p> <p><i>Stubborn, unmoving</i></p> <p><i>Braying, kicking, resisting</i></p> <p><i>Not wanting to listen</i></p> <p><i>People</i></p>
<p>Cinquain Pattern #3</p> <p>Line1: Two syllables</p> <p>Line2: Four syllables</p> <p>Line 3: Six syllables</p> <p>Line 4: Eight syllables</p> <p>Line 5: Two syllables</p>	<p><i>Baseball</i></p> <p><i>Bat cracks against</i></p> <p><i>The pitch, sending it out</i></p> <p><i>Over the back fence, I did</i> <i>it!</i></p> <p><i>Homerun</i></p>	<p><i>Listen...</i></p> <p><i>With faint dry sound,</i></p> <p><i>Like steps of passing</i> <i>ghosts,</i></p> <p><i>The leaves, frost-crisp'd,</i> <i>break from the trees</i></p> <p><i>And fall.</i></p>

Free Verse

Free verse is a literary device that can be defined as poetry that is free from limitations of regular meter or rhythm and does not rhyme with fixed forms. Such poems are without rhythms and rhyme schemes; do not follow regular rhyme scheme rules and still provide artistic expression. In this way, the poet can give his own shape to a poem how he/she desires. However, it still allows poets to use alliteration, rhyme, cadences or rhythms to get the effects that they consider are suitable for the piece.

Example

*A noiseless patient spider,
I mark'd where on a little promontory it stood isolated,
Mark'd how to explore the vacant vast surrounding,
It launch'd forth filament, filament, filament, out of itself,
Ever unreeling them, ever tirelessly speeding them.*

*And you O my soul where you stand,
Surrounded, detached, in measureless oceans of space,.....
Till the bridge you will need be form'd, till the ductile anchor hold,
Till the gossamer thread you fling catch somewhere, O my soul.*

(A Noiseless Patient Spider by Walt Whitman)

What is a Sonnet Poem?

A Sonnet is a poem of an expressive thought or idea made up of 14 lines, each being 10 **syllables** long. Its rhymes are arranged according to one of the schemes – Italian, where eight lines called an octave consisting of two quatrains which normally open the poem as the question are followed by six lines called a sestet that are the answer, or the more common English which is three quatrains followed by a **rhyming couplet**.

The Structure of a Sonnet Poem

- ab ab, cdcd, efef, gg - English
- abba abba cdecde - Italian

An example of a Sonnet Poem

- (a) Scribbler! oh what a joy you can find here
(b) Eric is the one that heads the great team
(a) Full of poems, stories and happy cheer
(b) Hopefully it will make our readers gleam
(c) Bronte's Grammar is full of homework help
(d) Guest authors revealing secrets galore
(c) While the tricky puzzles will make you yelp
(d) There is no way Scribbler! will make you snore
(e) Eric will start a tale needing an end
(f) Fancy a challenge? Puzzle Time is here
(e) Shakespeare picks the great pictures you all send
(f) Ev'ry issue's jam-packed, let's give a cheer
(g) How 'bout finding Eric hidden away
(g) Jump on the Scribbler! wagon, come and play!

What is a Haiku Poem?

A Haiku is a Japanese poem which can also be known as a Hokku. A Haiku is a type of poetry that can be written on many themes, from love to nature.

What is the Structure of a Haiku Poem?

A Haiku consists of 3 lines and 17 **syllables**.

Each line has a set number of syllables see below:

- **Line 1** – 5 syllables
- **Line 2** – 7 syllables
- **Line 3** – 5 syllables

An Example of a Haiku Poem

(5) The sky is so blue.
(7) The sun is so warm up high.
(5) I love the summer.

Haiku poems don't need to **rhyme**, but for more of a challenge some poets try to rhyme lines 1 and 3

What is a Ballad?

A Ballad is a poem that tells a story, which are often used in songs because of their **rhyme**. A ballad is a poetic story, often a love story.

Example of a Ballad Poem

As I was walking down the street
I saw two people in secret meet
The second one said to the first
'You have some news to quench my thirst?'

'In behind the old, damp shed
There lies a noble man slain, dead
And no one knows he lies in strife
Except his dog and lonely wife

With master gone where no one knocks
His dog has left to chase a fox
His wife has found somebody new
His house is left for all to view

Though it's been empty for a while
We'll be warm and dry in half a mile
For now we can take comfort there
We'll flee the place when it grows bare

Many people knew the noble man
But none do care where he has gone
Over his grave, all do ignore
The wind shall blow forever more.'