

Types of Poetry

COUPLET: Is a pair of lines that rhyme. The couplet may be complete in itself or may be part of a longer poem.

*The artist stirred some blue and green
To paint an underwater scene.*

HAIKU: Is an unrhymed poem consisting of three lines and seventeen syllables. A haiku often describes something in nature

*The autumn wind blows,
Calling the leaves on the ground
To join him in dance.*

CINQUAIN: Is an unrhymed, five-line poem. Each line has a set number of words or syllables and a specific function.

Word Number Example/Pattern

<i>Butterflies</i>	<i>1 word</i>
<i>Gentle creatures</i>	<i>2 words</i>
<i>Fluttering, searching, landing</i>	<i>3 words</i>
<i>Lovely flashes of light</i>	<i>4 words</i>
<i>Miracles</i>	<i>1 word</i>

Syllable Example/Pattern (Most Common Form)

<i>Puppies</i>	<i>2 syllables</i>
<i>Fuzzy, playful</i>	<i>4 syllables</i>
<i>Running, eating, chewing</i>	<i>6 syllables</i>
<i>Tennis balls, toys, beds, shoes, leashes</i>	<i>8 syllables</i>
<i>Loving</i>	<i>2 syllables</i>

LIMERICK: Is a humorous five-line poem. It is made up of thirteen beats and has a rhyme scheme of AABBA.

*There was a young boy from Caboo,
Who had trouble tying his shoe.
He said to his ox,
"I'll just walk in my socks."
Now all of his friends do that too!*

QUATRAIN: Is a four-line poem. Its rhyme scheme may be AABB, ABAB, ABBA, for ABCB. Quatrains are often combined to form a long poem.

*A fresh patch of snow
Tiny snowflakes all aglow
Soft and smooth as silk
Icy white as milk*

ACROSTIC: The first letters of the lines of this type of poem spell out the topic or title of the poem. Acrostic poems may or may not rhyme.

*C*uddly
*A*dorable
*T*iny

DIAMANTE: Is a seven-line, diamond shaped poems that follow a specific patterns using parts of speech. Each line uses a different part of speech. Many diamante poems **begin with one subject** and then **transitions/ends to a contrasting subject** in the fourth line.

<i>Plants</i>	<i>Subject</i>
<i>Green, beautiful</i>	<i>Adjectives</i>
<i>Living, giving, creating</i>	<i>Verbs</i>
<i>Flowers, trees, fruits, vegetables</i>	<i>Nouns</i>
<i>Growing, blooming, ripening</i>	<i>Verbs</i>
<i>Bright, fragrant</i>	<i>Adjective</i>
<i>Gardens</i>	<i>Subject</i>

CLERIHEW: Are funny poems about real people. A clerihew has four-lines and an *AABB* rhyming scheme. The first line includes the person's name.

Our teacher, Ms. Brite
Really knows how to write,
But her awful singing
Often leaves our ears ringing.

"I AM" POEM: The writer expresses personal thoughts and feelings, following a ten-line format. This type of poetry is called "personal poetry."

I am Charles
Silly, talkative, energetic
Child of Wendy and Tim
Who loves mystery books
Who needs understanding
Who feels curious
Who gives honesty
Who fears thunderstorms
Who would like to be a doctor
I am Charles

FIVE SENSES: Is shaped like a triangle because of the patterning of words used. It uses sensory words to describe its subject. Five senses poems do not have to rhyme.

Puppy
Fresh, warm
Fuzzy, soft, cuddly
Brown, playful, fast, cute
Panting, licking, jumping, digging, barking