

Exploring different types of poetry

Learn

There are lots of different types of **poetry**, but they often contain similar ingredients.

[\(If you have access to a computer, watch the video\).](#)

All poems are made up of **words**. Poems can tell a story or be about a thought or a feeling. They can be serious or silly, but they always have to use words.

Poems often have a **rhythm**, which is like a beat in music. The rhythm is quick or slow depending on the words the poet chooses.

Poems can use **rhyme**, which means that certain words have similar end sounds.

For example:

'break' and 'lake'

'cat' and 'mat'

'loud' and 'proud'



Poems can also use **alliteration**, which is when more than one word starts with the same first letter or sound.

For example: *The slimy, sneaky snake slithered silently.*

In the same way that there are different stories, such as fairy tales, thrillers and historical stories, there are different types of poetry that follow different rules.

[\(If you have access to a computer, watch the video\).](#)

A **haiku** is a very short poem that has some very specific rules:

- It is three lines long.
- The first and last lines have five syllables.
- The middle line has seven syllables.

A **sonnet** is a much longer poem but also has rules:

- It has 14 lines
- It is split into four verses
- The first three verses have four lines.
- The fourth verse has two lines.
- It uses rhyme.

A **poem with no verse** has no rules whatsoever. It does not follow a structure and it's up to the poet to decide how many lines they want, if they want verses and if they want it to rhyme.

Complete these activities

If you have access to a computer, complete Activities 1 and 2, as well as Activity 3 - If not, start on Activity 3.

Activity 1

Complete the 'How to write a poem' quiz. Can you get all four questions correct?

I scored: _____ / 4

Activity 2

Watch the Joseph Coelho video again from **00.42 to 02.48**. Then think about which poem you like best and why you like it better - the haiku or the sonnet. Then look at the questions below and write your answers down.

1. What do you like about each poem?

2. Do you dislike anything about each poem?

3. Which do you like better? Why?

Top tip!

You could complete the sentences below to help you.

1. In the haiku poem I like ... / In the sonnet poem I like ...

2. In the haiku poem I dislike ... / In the sonnet poem I dislike ...

3. I like the haiku / sonnet poem better **because**...

Activity 3

It's time to get creative! You are going to **write your very own haiku poem**. Remember the rules for a haiku poem on the page before. Once you've written your haiku you could perform it for someone at home, or film yourself reading it with an adult's help to show Miss Nicholls.

Handwriting

Haiku Poems

A Haiku is a Japanese poem which has 3 lines and 17 syllables which do not need to rhyme.

Copy these Haiku Poems in your best handwriting:



Snow

In the cold winter (5 syllables)

Having fun in the deep snow (7 syllables)

Sliding on my sledge. (5 syllables)

Ice Cream

Melting down my arm (5)

A yummy, sweet and sticky mess (8)

Icy cold ice cream. (4)

If you prefer, you can complete the handwriting using the 'Handwriting line guides' which can be found on the website (where you found instructions for your work), or if you have a pack, they will be in there.