

Acrostic

An acrostic is a poem in which the first letter of each line spells out a word or message.

London

Lights shine in the bustling city,
On the river Thames, boats float by,
National museums educate and inspire.
Dreams brought to life on theatre stages,
Oxford Street shops that entice you in,
New experiences everywhere.



Cinquain

A cinquain has five lines that do not rhyme. Each line has the following numbers of syllables:

Line One - 2 syllables
Line Two - 4 syllables
Line Three - 6 syllables
Line Four - 8 syllables
Line Five - 2 syllables

Listen. . .

With faint dry sound,

Like steps of passing ghosts,

The leaves, frost-crisp'd, break from the trees

And fall.



Adelaide Crapsey

Haiku

A haiku is a Japanese poem with three lines.
Each line has the following numbers of syllables:

Line One - 5 syllables
Line Two - 7 syllables
Line Three - 5 syllables



*Gleaming in the sun,
The flowers sway in the breeze,
Bees play together.*

Limerick

A limerick is a funny five-line poem that follows a special format (AABBA).



*There was an Old Man with a beard,
Who said, "It is just as I feared!—
Two Owls and a Hen,
Four Larks and a Wren,
Have all built their nests in my beard!"*

Edward Lear

List Poem

This type of poem is a list
or inventory of things,
people, places or ideas.



*I went to the zoo with my friend Sue
and this is all that we saw...*

- *One lion whose name was Brian,*
- *Five frogs dancing on logs,*
- *Six sheep (who were all fast asleep),*
- *Three snakes munching on cakes,*
and a duck that couldn't quack.

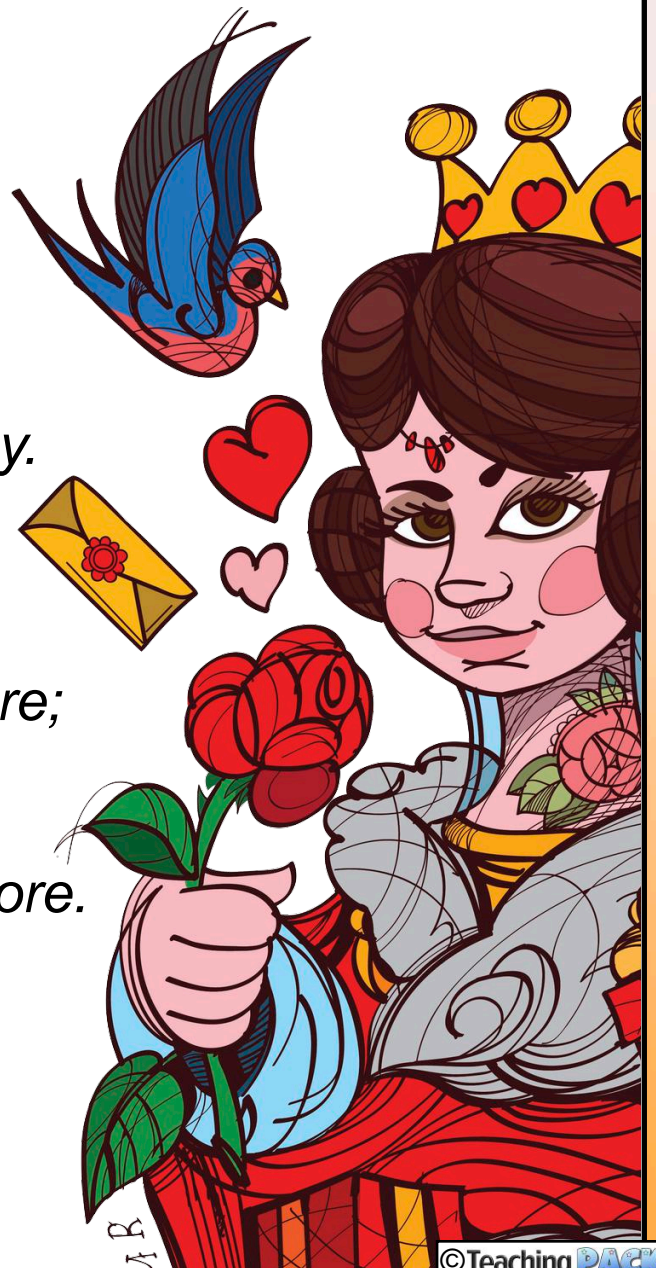
We won't be going back!

Narrative Poem

A narrative poem
is a poem that
tells a story.

*The Queen of Hearts,
She made some tarts,
All on a summer's day;
The knave of Hearts,
He stole the tarts,
And took them clean away.*

*The King of Hearts
Called for the tarts,
And beat the Knave full sore;
The Knave of Hearts
Brought back the tarts,
And vowed he'd steal no more.*



Nursery Rhyme

A nursery rhyme is a simple traditional poem or song for children.



*Jack and Jill went up the hill
to fetch a pail of water.
Jack fell down and broke his crown
And Jill came tumbling after.*

*Up got Jack, and home did trot
As fast as he could caper.
He went to bed and bound his head
With vinegar and brown paper.*

Shape Poem

A shape poem describes an object and is written in the same shape as that object.



*Egypt
Pyramid
Rising high
Hidden secrets
Standing for years
Ancient, vast tombs*

Sonnet

A sonnet is a special type of poem that has fourteen lines, with (usually) ten syllables for each line.



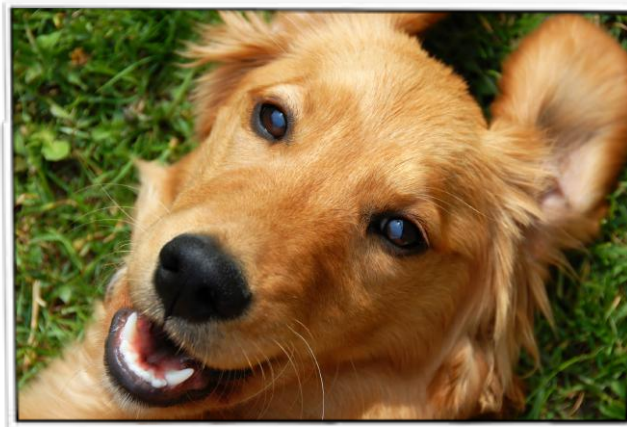
*Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate.
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
And summer's lease hath all too short a date.
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,
And often is his gold complexion dimmed;
And every fair from fair sometime declines,
By chance, or nature's changing course, untrimmed;
But thy eternal summer shall not fade,
Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st,
Nor shall death brag thou wand'rest in his shade,
When in eternal lines to Time thou grow'st.
So long as men can breathe, or eyes can see,
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.*

William Shakespeare

Tanka

A tanka is a Japanese poem with five lines.
Each line has the following numbers of syllables:

- Line One - 5 syllables
- Line Two - 7 syllables
- Line Three - 5 syllables
- Line Four - 7 syllables
- Line Five - 7 syllables



*My dog brings me joy,
His long coat is golden brown,
He loves playing ball,
He comforts me when I'm sad,
And keeps me cosy at night.*