



Types of Poetry

Type of Poetry	Description
Acrostic	Contains certain letters, usually the first in each line from a word or phrase when read in a sequence.
Ballad	Tells a story similar to a folk tale or legend, and often has a repeated refrain.
Couplet	A pair of lines of poetry that usually rhyme. The last word of the first line and the last line rhyme.
Epic	Serious poem that tells a story of a heroic figure.
Free verse	Poetry written that will rhyme or not rhyme that does not have a set pattern.
Haiku	Japanese form of poetry. Seventeen syllables in three lines with pattern; first line has five syllables, second line has seven syllables, third line has five syllables. Usually has a nature theme.
Iambic pentameter	One short syllable followed by one long one, five sets in a row.
Limerick	Lines 1, 2, and 5 rhyme, and lines 3 and 4 rhyme.
Lyrical	Expresses the thoughts and feelings of the poet.
Narrative	Tells a story.
Rhyme	Rhyming poem with repetition of the same or similar sounds of two or more words at the end of each line.
Sonnet	Lyrical poem that has fourteen lines with one or more rhyme schemes.
Verse	Single line of poetry.