

Poetic Skills Progression



Note: This document does not cover the broader “poetic study” units within your English document.

Year 1/2

POEM TYPE	Description	SKILLS
List poems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list poem can be a list or inventory of items, people, places, or ideas. It often involves repetition. It can include rhyme or not. The list poem is usually not a random list. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noun focus Adjectives
Tongue twisters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a sequence of words or sounds, typically of an alliterative kind, that are difficult to pronounce quickly and correctly, as for example <i>Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled pepper.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alliteration -ed suffix
Riddles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The poem describes a noun (usually an object), but does not name it, i.e. it may describe a tiger as striped and furry. The last line usually directly addresses the reader and uses a question, e.g. ‘What is it?’ or ‘Can you guess what I could be?’ The mood of the poem is light-hearted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing questions- use of question marks Writing in first person Similes Use of adjectives/expanded noun phrases to describe.

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Rhyme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A poem which includes rhyming couplets at the end of lines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjectives • Alliteration • Onomatopoeias • Alliteration
Narrative poetry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrative poetry is a form of poetry that tells a story, often making the voices of a narrator and characters as well; the entire story is usually written in metered verse. Narrative poems do not need rhyme. 	<p>TO CONTAIN A POETRY STUDY E.G. THE OWL AND THE PUSSY CAT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similes • Rhyme • Use of Stanzas • Personification • Exclamatory sentences e.g. “What a beautiful pussy you are!”

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Year 3/4

POEM TYPE	KEY FEATURES	SKILLS
Acrostic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The first of last letter in each line spell out a word. Most commonly, it is the first letter that spells out the word.• The acrostic links to a given theme, e.g. winter.• Lines usually end with commas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alliteration• Similes• Expanded noun phrases/adjectives• Adverbs
Haiku	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The haiku Originates from Japan, and is similar in structure to a Tanka poem.• The mood of a haiku is generally serious, and can relate to many themes, including nature or love.• The line structure is as follows: Line 1- 5 syllables Line 2- 7 syllables Line 3- 5 syllables Total -17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Counting syllables• Onomatopoeias• Adjectives• Verbs• Adverbs

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each line starts with a capital letter 	
Cinquain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A cinquain consists of five unrhymed lines. Each line has a set number of syllables see below: Line 1: 2 syllables Line 2: 4 syllables Line 3: 6 syllables Line 4: 8 syllables Line 5: 2 syllables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counting syllables
Kenning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A ‘kenning’ is a two word phrase which describes an object, often using a metaphor to do so. Kenning poems are a type of riddle which use kennings to describe something or someone. Each line consists of one kenning. There is no set number of lines in each verse. The kennings should be ordered within the poem with consideration of the impact on the reader. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metaphors

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Narrative poetry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Narrative poetry is a form of poetry that tells a story, often making the voices of a narrator and characters as well; the entire story is usually written in metered verse. Narrative poems do not need rhyme.	
Free Verse	<p><i>Free verse does not follow a set syllable pattern or rhyme scheme.</i></p> <p><i>It may be written on a range of themes.</i></p>	

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Year 5/6

POEM TYPE	KEY FEATURES	SKILLS
Nonsense poems	Nonsense verse is a form of nonsense literature usually employing strong prosodic elements like rhythm and rhyme. It is whimsical and humorous in tone and employs some of the techniques of nonsense literature.	
Rhyming couplets	A poem which includes rhyming couplets at the end of lines	
Narrative poetry	Narrative poetry is a form of poetry that tells a story, often making the voices of a narrator and characters as well; the entire story is usually written in metered verse. Narrative poems do not need rhyme.	