

Lecture Eight: Types of Poetry

***Lesson Plan**

- 1-Introduction
- 2-Nature of Poetry
- 3-Genres of Poetry
- 4-Poetry Types
- 5-Evaluation

***Lesson Objectives :** By the end of the lesson, students will be able to

- Distinguish between the three poetry genres
- Identify different types of poetry
- Classify given examples correctly in the appropriate type according to its features
- Produce one or more examples of poems of any type (To enhance creativity)

***Keywords**

Lyrical Poetry, Narrative Poetry, Dramatic poetry, Ballad, Ode, Elegy, Epic, Idyll

1-Introduction

Prose is language intended to convey meaning in a more expansive and less condensed manner, frequently employing more complete logical or narrative structures than poetry does. Most of the time, poetry can differ from prose. This demonstrates that the need to express emotions and other expressions in a condensed way is frequently the inspiration for poetry. In many instances, what constitutes "great" poetry is up for debate. Poetry that is considered to be "great" typically does a great job of evoking vivid images while also combining a complex array of elements, such as theme tension, intricate emotion, and profound reflection.

2-Nature of poetry

Poetry is what the poet creates, and a poet is someone who creates. The idea that the poet is the creator is a common one. Rhythm is the most important component of sound in poetry. Each line's rhythm is frequently set in a particular meter. The rhythm of the lines in free verse is frequently organized into looser units of cadence. When reading the poem, these are easy to spot. Rhyme isn't used by everyone. Form in poetry relies more on pure poetic units of organization than prose does on the linguistic units of sentences and paragraphs. The line, couplet, strophe, stanza, and verse paragraph are typical structural elements. The rhetorical devices of simile and metaphor are utilized frequently in poetry.

3-Genres of Poems

Throughout its long history, poetry has relied on evolving rules about what a poem is, with new kinds of poetry building on earlier kinds to create greater possibilities of expression. Actually, poems can be narrative, lyrical and dramatic.

a- Narrative Poetry

In verse, narrative poetry conveys a series of interconnected events and guides characters through a plot. A narrator always tells the story. The actions of a hero or heroine, a love story, a father-son relationship, or a love story are all examples of narrative poems. Examples of narrative poetry subcategories are: ballads and epics.

Epics usually have a lot going on, both in terms of length and subject, like Milton's *Paradise Lost* or Virgil's *Aeneid* about the beginning of a nation. They also tend to use higher language, and supernatural beings are involved in the action.

A ballad is a song that tells a story and was originally told orally. It is an important type of folk poetry that was used in literature starting in the 16th century. The stanza of a ballad typically consists of four lines that alternate between tetrameter and trimeter.

b- Lyric Poetry

A verse sonnet is a nearly short, non-story sonnet in which a solitary speaker presents a perspective or a profound state. Verse holds a portion of the components of tune which is supposed to be its starting point: The lyric was a song performed by the lyre for Greek writers. The lyric's subcategories include, for instance, elegy, ode, sonnet, dramatic monologue, and most poetry on occasion:

Nowadays, an elegy is a formal remembrance of a deceased person. In a more general sense, the term "elegy" also refers to solemn meditations that frequently address issues related to death.

An ode is a lengthy lyric poem written in an elevated style about a serious subject. The work was initially an adoration sonnet which managed the sweetheart's sufferings and expectations.

In a dramatic monologue, a speaker who is not the author makes a speech to a silent audience at a crucial moment in a specific situation. Without meaning to do as such, the speaker uncovers parts of his disposition and character. Poetry written for special occasions is called occasional. a wedding, also known as an epithalamion (such as Spenser's *Epithalamion*), or the king's return from exile.

C-Descriptive and Didactic Poetry

Descriptive and long-winded descriptions (dramatic poetry) and direct-speech scenes (lyric poetry) are examples of both types of poetry. A didactic poem's primary objective is to instruct. This can take the form of very specific instructions, like Alexander Pope's *Essay on Criticism's* advice on how to write good poetry. However, it may also be intended as general instruction. Prior to the twentieth century, it was assumed that all literature served a didactic function.

4-Poetry Types: poetry is written in different forms and types, here are some of them

1-ABC: A poem that has five lines that create together a mood, picture, or feeling. Lines 1 through 4 are made up of words, phrases or clauses while the first word of each line is in alphabetical order. Line 5 is one sentence long and begins with any letter.

Petra Sheane: If Only

If Only...

A prayer was held in our nation,
Beauty was seen in more ways than one,
Children who are lost could find their salvation,
Death was slain and torture was done.

If Only...

Earth was awakened after years of endurance,
Forgotten feelings were rekindled anew,
God was man's only path and assurance,
Hope was the foundation of the world we knew.

If Only...

I knew more stories than those that were told,
Joy was a plague, and peace a disease,
Knowledge was worth more than silver and gold,
Love was sacred and endless as the seas.

If Only...

Miracles were seen more than daylight,
Never was replaced with forever,
Our eyes could see through the dark of the night,
Passion lived in us more than ever.

If Only...

Questions were answered, and answers were questioned,
Roses were pure and without thorns,
Sadness received only love and affection,
The empty knew why it was they were born.

If Only...

Us as a nation would join hands in song,
Victory was a gift to the humble,
When tears were shed, the earth felt strong,

Exalted men would fall and crumble.

If Only...

You and I would last forever.

If Only...

2-Acrostic: A poem in which the first letter in each line form a word or message when read in a sequence.

Example: (the word PEN)

Perfect tool for writing on the fly

Evolution from quills to fountains, ballpoints to roller balls

No touch screen or keyboard can replicate the satisfaction of writing by hand

3-Ballad: This is an old style of writing poetry, which was used to tell stories. A ballad usually has stanzas made up of either seven or eight or ten lines, and ends with a short four or five line stanza. Each stanza ends with the same line, which is called 'a refrain'. E.g.: Samuel Taylor Coleridge's *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*

4-Burlesque: Poetry that treats a serious subject as humor. The word comes from the Italian word 'Burlesco' which means to joke or to mock. E.g.: Samuel Butler's 'The Hudibras' in which he criticized corruption and idealism of Puritans in a comical way.

5-Epic: Usually a long and descriptive poem which tells a story about a heroic figure. Epics usually are longer than most poems and may even take up a book. Epics are long, detailed poems that tell fantastical stories of larger-than-life characters. These stories can be fictional, historical, or historical with a generous helping of fiction and drama to heighten the emotion. E.g.: Homer's *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*.

6 -Elegy: A sad and thoughtful poem about the death of an individual. E.g.: Thomas Gray's *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*.

7-Limerick: This is a very witty and often vulgar kind of a poem, which is quite short. This poem has five lines in a stanza. The first, second and fifth line have the same metrical structure and they rhyme with each other. They contain seven to ten syllables each. The second and fourth

lines have the same metrical structure and rhyme with each other. As a form, limericks have specific rules:

- Five lines
- AABBA rhyme scheme
- First two lines contain seven to ten syllables
- Third and fourth lines contain five to seven syllables
- Final line contains seven to ten syllables

8-Carpe diem: Latin expression that means ‘seize the day.’ Carpe diem poems have a theme of living for today.

9-Epigram: A very short, ironic and witty poem usually written as a brief couplet or quatrain.

10-Epitaph: A commemorative inscription on a tomb or mortuary monument written to praise the deceased.

11-Epithalamium (Epithalamion): A poem written in honor of the bride and groom.

12-Ghazal: A short lyrical poem that arose in Urdu. It is between 5 and 15 couplets long. Each couplet contains its own poetic thought but is linked in rhyme that is established in the first couplet and continued in the second line of each pair. The lines of each couplet are equal in length. The closing signature often includes the poet's name or allusion to it. Ghazal is a type of Arabic poetry that dates to the seventh century. However, ghazal translated into English often can't retain their rhyme schemes or meters. Sometimes, this rhyme is replaced by a repeated word or phrase, known as the refrain

13-Idyll (Idyl): Poetry that either depicts a peaceful, idealized country scene or a long poem telling a story about heroes of a bygone age. E.g.: *Alfred, Lord Tennyson's*

14-Lay: A long narrative poem, especially one that was sung by medieval minstrels.

15-Ode: A lengthy lyric poem typically of a serious or meditative nature. E.g.: *Ode to the West Wind* by *Percy Bysshe Shelley*

16-Pastoral: A poem that depicts rural life in a peaceful, romanticized way.

17-Rondeau: A lyrical poem of French with the opening phrase repeated twice as the refrain.

18-Shape: Poetry written in the shape or form of an object.

19-Sonnet: A fourteen-line poem in iambic pentameter. The sonnet is either:

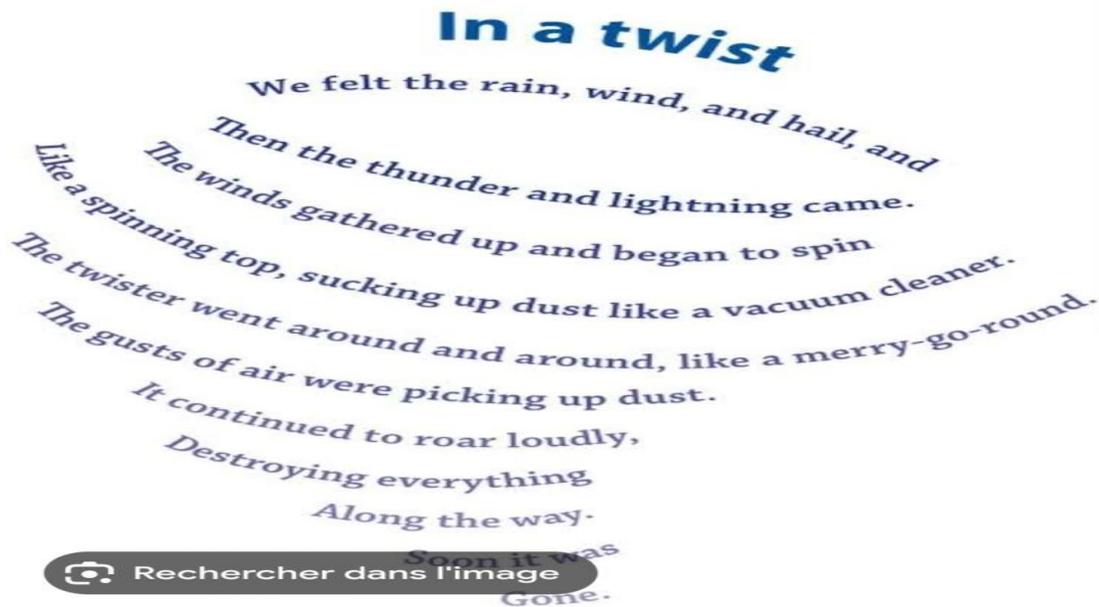
a*Shakespearean (William Shakespeare):

- Three quatrains (four lines) and a couplet, which typically concludes the poem
- ABAB, CDCD, EFEF, GG rhyme scheme

b*Petrarchan (Francesco Petrarca):

- Two stanzas: one octave (eight lines) and one sestet (six lines)
- The first eight lines present an argument or question

Shape poem example



No!
Not more rain
splashing on the window
pane. In the main, I don't complain.
The fact remains, the drains contain so much
rain that they are strained. The weather vane's
become inane, when every day it rains again. It's plain
to
see
for
you
and
me
it
has
to
be
the
end
of play.

5-Evaluation

A-Short Test:

1- Fill in the blanks:

- Poetry that treats a serious subject as humor.....
- It is an old style of writing poetry, which was used to tell stories
- It has a theme of living for today.....
- A poem that has five lines that create a mood, picture, or feeling
- A poem written in honor of the bride and groom

B-Global Evaluation Task

1- Define the terms providing examples of the following types: Rondeau, Pastoral, Limerick, Ghazal poems, Lay poems and odes.

2-In a small table, compare between the narrative, the dramatic and the lyrical poetic genres

