

TYPES OF POETRY

Poetry is a broad literary category that covers a variety of writing, including bawdy limericks, unforgettable song lyrics, and even the sentimental couplets. Some kinds of poetry have few rules, while others have a rigid structure. That can make poetry feel hard to define, but the variety is also what makes it enjoyable. Through poetry, writers can express themselves in ways they can't always through prose. There are many types of poetry from various cultures all over the world. 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 rollerballs

No touchscreen 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'. Eg: 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. Eg: Homer's *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*.

6 -Elegy: A sad and thoughtful poem about the death of an individual. Eg: 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. Ghazals are a type of Arabic poetry that dates to the seventh century. However, ghazals 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 radif or 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. Eg: *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. Eg: 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:

***Shakespearean (William Shakespeare):**

-Three quatrains (four lines) and a couplet, which typically concludes the poem

-ABAB, CDCD, EFEF, GG rhyme scheme

***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

In a twist
We felt the rain, wind, and hail, and
Then the thunder and lightning came.
The winds gathered up and began to spin
Like a spinning top, sucking up dust like a vacuum cleaner.
The twister went around and around, like a merry-go-round.
The gusts of air were picking up dust.
It continued to roar loudly,
Destroying everything
Along the way.
Soon it was
Gone.

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.