



Poetry: Notes

What is poetry?

- A type of writing **where attention is given to one's emotions and feelings through style and rhythm**

What are the types of poetry?

- **Free verse**
 - Does **not** have a consistent rhyme scheme, metrical pattern, or musical form
 - **Literally: WHATEVER! THERE ARE NO RULES!**
- **Haiku**
 - Has a **5-7-5 syllable rule**
 - 5 syllables in the first line
 - 7 syllables in the second line
 - 5 syllables in the third line
 - Always has **3 lines**
 - Usually **about nature**
- **Limerick**
 - **5 line poem**
 - **1 stanza**
 - Rhyme scheme: A-A-B-B-A
 - **1st, 2nd, 5th lines rhyme**
 - **3rd and 4th lines rhyme**
 - Usually a **short tale or description**
- **Blank verse**
 - Written with a precise meter
 - The meter is nearly always **iambic pentameter (iambic pentameter always has ten syllables per line, and it does not rhyme)**
- **Rhymed Poetry**
 - **Rhyme all the time**
 - **Rhyme scheme varies**
 - Just have to rhyme in some way
- **Epic**
 - Very **long**
 - **Narratives**
 - Talk about **extraordinary adventures and feats of characters**
 - Example: Odyssey, Iliad, Aeneid



- **Narrative**
 - **Tells a story**
 - Example: “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner” by Samuel Taylor Coleridge
- **Pastoral**
 - About **rural life, landscapes, and the natural world**
 - People wrote these poems in Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome, and the present day
- **Sonnet**
 - **14 line poem**
 - Usually **about love**
 - Have **internal rhymes within the 14 lines**
 - Actual rhyme scheme depends on author’s style
- **Elegy**
 - About **death and loss**
 - Themes: **Reflection, Mourning, Loss** (sometimes about **redemption and consultation**)
 - A **tribute to something or someone**
- **Ode**
 - Also a **tribute to someone or something**
 - The **subject doesn’t need to be dead**
- **Lyric**
 - Poetry that **concerns emotion and feelings**
- **Ballad**
 - **Narrative verse**
 - Can be **poetic or musical**
 - Usually **follows a pattern of rhymed quatrains**
- **Villanelle**
 - **19 line poem**
 - Contains **5 tercets and a quatrain**
 - It has a **specific internal rhyme scheme**
 - Originally a variation of pastoral, but has evolved to be about **obsessions and other intense subjects**
- **Soliloquy**
 - **Monologue**
 - In it, the **character speaks to themselves and express their inner thoughts that the reader might not know otherwise**
 - Not always poems, but often can be
 - Most famous for being poems in the plays of William Shakespeare