

Basic poetry terminology

- ✓ **Line:** a row, not sentence, of poetry.
- ✓ **Stanza:** a paragraph of poetry.
- ✓ **Rhyme:** a word that sounds the same as another.
- ✓ **Rhyme scheme:** a pattern of rhyming words found at the end of a line.
- ✓ **Imagery:** descriptive words that make the reader imagine or 'see' something in their mind.
- ✓ **Turning point:** where the tone or events change

Identifying Poetic Structure

- ❖ **Couplet:** a pair of lines
- ❖ **Quatrain:** a group of four lines
- ❖ **Octave:** a group of eight lines
- ❖ **Sestet:** a group of six lines
- ❖ **Volta:** the turning point of thoughts or ideas in a poem.
- ❖ **Epigram:** a final brief/forceful comment (often in the form of a couplet or quatrain) that is witty or funny.

- ❖ **Exposition:** the beginning where the topic is outlined.
- ❖ **Development:** the middle, where the topic is explored or built-up.
- ❖ **Conclusion:** the ending, where the topic or problem is fixed or resolved.

Types of Sonnets

All sonnets have 14 lines, but other types have different features that you need to be able to recognise.

Petrarchan

- Rhyme scheme: Abba, abba (octave), cdcdcd (sestet)
- Quatrain 1 (exposition), quatrain 2 (development), sestet (conclusion)
- Volta is on line 9.

Spenserian

- Chained rhyme scheme: abab bcbc cdcd ee
- 3 quatrains and a final couplet
- Volta on line 5 OR line 12.

Shakespearean

- Alternate rhyming couplets: abab, cdcd, efef, gg.
- 3 quatrains and a final couplet.
- Volta on line 9 OR line 13.

Previous knowledge alert!

Key Stage 2 work

- Can you use these words and techniques to talk about the types of poems you learnt at primary school?

Last Term's work

- What types of punctuation have the poets used in their poems?
- How do they affect the sound of the poem?
- Have you used accurate punctuation when writing about the poems?



How to find a rhyme scheme...

1. Label the last word on the first line 'a'.
2. Label all ending words that rhyme with it 'a'.
3. From the start, go to the next unlabelled line. Label that word 'b'
4. Repeat the process until all final words have a label. Can you see a pattern?

Understanding Imagery

- ✓ **Lexical field:** a selection of words linked by a topic, tone or impression.

Imagery is also created by using **figurative language techniques** such as...

- ✓ **Simile:** where the subject is compared to something else, taking on that thing's qualities.
My dad is like a cheetah.
- ✓ **Metaphor:** where the subject is said to be something else, taking on that thing's qualities.
The furnace burned brightly in the sky above us.
- ✓ **Personification:** where a non-living object is given human qualities, transferring those traits to the non-living object.
As the sun set, the shadows chased me.

Famous Sonnet Writer Facts

Francesco Petrarch

- ✓ Lived from 1304 – 1374, spending his life in Italy and France.
- ✓ Considered one of history's best love poets
- ✓ The Black Death (plague) killed his wife and many of his friends.

Edmund Spenser

- ✓ Lived from 1552 – 1599, spending his life in England under the reign of Queen Elizabeth I.
- ✓ Considered one of the greatest poets in the history of the English language.
- ✓ His greatest work, 'The Fairie Queen' (a mythical fantasy poem based on England under the glorious rule of Queen Elizabeth I) ran over 1000 pages and was never finished.

William Shakespeare

- ✓ Lived from 1564 – 1616, spending his life in England under the rule of Queen Elizabeth I and James I.
- ✓ Is thought to be responsible for the creation of over 2,000 words we use today (eg: assassin)
- ✓ Wrote 34 plays and 154 sonnets over the course of his life, as well as being an actor.