
TYPES OF POETRY

Ballad– A narrative poem, containing repetition and a repeated refrain. Ballads were originally folk songs passed on from one generation to another.

Didactic– A form of a poem which is instructional and has a primary goal of the teaching of some lesson or moral ,or making a critical statement about society.

Elegy– A formal poem, often written as a lament for a someone who has passed away, ends in consolation.

Epic– A long narrative poem which tells the heroic journey of a single person or a group of persons. Often, supernatural forces play are incorporated in the poem.

Lyric– A short poem, often with songlike qualities, that expresses the speaker's personal emotions and feelings. Lyrics originated as songs, and they retain their melodic patterns through various forms or rhythm and rhyme.

Narrative– A poem that tells a story and organizes its action according to a sequence throughout time (though not always in chronological order).

Ode– A serious, often lyrical; poem that addresses and often celebrates a person, place, thing, or idea. Often contains a theme usually in praise or something or somebody.

Open form or free verse– A poem which follows no set pattern of rhyme or rhythm. It does not use consistent meter patterns, rhyme, or any musical pattern. It follows the rhythm of natural speech.

Sonnet– A lyric poem of 14 lines in iambic pentameter following one of several possible rhyme schemes, and adhering to a tightly structured thematic organization. The two main types of sonnets are the Italian (or Petrarchan) and the English (or Shakespearean).

Rhythm in Poetry

Anapestic– a metrical foot made up of three syllables: two unstressed followed by one stressed.

Dactylic– a metrical foot made up of three syllables: the first one stressed, the next two unstressed

Iambic– a metrical foot made up of one unstressed syllable followed by one stressed syllable.

Trochaic– a metrical foot made up of two syllables: the first stressed, the second unstressed.