Definition Poem

Choose a topic. Brainstorm all the words you associate with that subject. It helps if you write them down. From your list, combine words to create descriptive phrases about your subject. Your poem should be between 6 and 12 lines long, and in the following form:

Summer is…

Watching kids play in the street

Running around in my bare ­feet

Relaxing with *ease*

Nachos with *cheese*

Watching the ­sky

As I roller skate by

Soaking up the *rays*

On long sun-shiny *days*.

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The Blotz Poem

Create an imaginary creature…. something we have never heard of before. Give it a name, then fill in the blanks with words that begin with the first letter of the character’s name.

This is a Snerdbergle.

Snerdbergle lives in a ­shed at the shore near

San Francisco not far from the seawall.

Snerdbergle eats shellfish, seaweed, seals,

and salmon.

Snerdbergle likes swimming, surfing, sailing,

and skating.

Snerdbergle snorts, stomps, and

shouts.

Snerdbergle stole my surfboard.

This is a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. (Name your creature.)

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** lives in a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ near

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ not far from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** eats \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

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and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Tell some things about your creature.)

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

(Write about something your creature did to you.)

\*\*\*\*Don’t forget to illustrate your poem.

**Limerick Fun**

Limericks are usually funny or silly, and always have five lines. When you write a limerick of your own, think of each poem as a very short story. It has five lines. The first, second, and fifth lines are longer and rhyme with each other. Lines three and four are short and rhyme.

There was a young lady whose chin

Resembled the point of a pin;

So she had it made **sharp**,

And purchased a **harp**,

And played several tunes with her chin.

By Edward Lear

**Write two limericks:**

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**Haiku**

The Japanese people have been writing tiny poems about nature for hundreds of years. These are called **haiku.** Haiku has three lines and seventeen syllables, divided as follows:

The first line has five syllables.

The second line has seven syllables.

The third line has five syllables.

Leaves are drifting down A snake is crawling

falling gently to the ground, in the cool and damp garden.

covering the ground. He is hiding from me.

**Write three haiku poems:**

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**Cinquain**

The cinquain is a five line poem about the subject of your choice.

On line 1: write the subject of your cinquain ( a noun)

On line 2: write two adjectives describing the subject

On line 3: write three action verbs ending in –ing describing the subject

On line 4: write a phrase expressing a feeling about the subject

On line 5: write a synonym for the subject

Football Candy

rough, tough, sweet, tasty

throwing, kicking, tackling, licking, biting, crunching

intense in the huddle mouth watering, heavenly, soothing

Victory Snickers

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(noun)

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(2 adjectives)

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(4 words expressing a feeling)

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(synonym for line 1)

**Rhyming Poems**

Rhyming sounds are everywhere – in song lyrics, tv advertisements, and poetry. Rhyme is a technique that creates a rhythm using words that sound alike. Rhymed poems are a lot of fun to write. Pick any words, and think of all the words that rhyme with it. Then create your poem.

There are different rhyme schemes. You may choose the one you prefer. The most common schemes are **aabb** and **abab** per stanza.

Example **abab:**

From: The Sneetches by Dr. Suess – Now the Star Belly Sneetches a

Had bellies with stars b

The Plain-Belly Sneetches a

Had none upon thars b

Example **aabb:**

From: To an Athlete Dying Young by A.E. Houseman

The time you won the town your race a

We chaired you through the market-place a

Man and boy stood cheering by b

And home we brought you shoulder-high b

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**Concrete/Shape Poems**

Think of something important in your life and a shape to represent that thing. Then use words to constuct the shape of the object you have chosen. For instance, if apples are your favorite fruit, you could use words such as pie, strudel, red, green, golden delicious, gala, etc. to form the shape of an apple.

**Five Senses**

Use your five senses to describe one word. Each line will paint a picture of the sense described.

The wind tastes like a fizzy coke.

The wind smells like flower petals.

The wind looks like a witch’s hair.

The wind sounds like a drum roll.

The wind feels like rushing water.

Daisies smell like expensive perfume.

Daisies look like pats of butter.

Daises feel like yellow velvet.

Daisies sound like whispering breezes.

Daisies taste like sunshine.

Pine trees smell \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Pine trees taste \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Pine trees sound \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Pine trees look \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Pine trees feel \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Create your own**:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ smell \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ taste \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ sound \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Terse Verse**

Terse verse is a short poem with a very long title or introduction. The introduction is made up of big, impressive-sounding words, and the poem contains some rhyming words.

A small aggressive vegetable: MEAN BEAN

The language of certain long-legged pink wading birds: FLAMINGO LINGO

An easily accessible lollipop: HANDY CANDY

An inexpensive wool-bearing mammal: CHEAP SHEEP

Write and illustrate 3 of your own:

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**DADA**

Originally, Dada poetry was written by artists and poets in Paris, France. They clipped words from newspapers, scrambled them, and arranged them in lines to form nonsense poems. Dada has to be the easiest poetry to write! Just follow the directions below:

1. Write down 10 verbs, 10 nouns, and the words: **a**, **an**, and **the** on small pieces of paper.

2. Turn the papers upside down on your desk and mix them up.

3. Turn them over, one at a time, and arrange them on a piece of paper until you like the way they look.

Firecracker nibble

Snore a tickle

Juggle jellyfish

Purr a pickle

Balloon a squish

Platypus hiccup kazoo

Hug away the flu