**acrostic** - the first, last or other letters in a line spell out a particular word or phrase.

The most common form of an acrostic poem is where the first letters of each line spell out the word or phrase.

A less common type of an acrostic poem is where the last letter of each line spells out the word or phrase.

The last type is where letters in the middle of the acrostic spell out the word or phrase.

## ballad - tells a story, which are often used in songs because of its rhyme. A ballad is a poetic story, often a love story.

**ballade** - three [stanzas](http://www.youngwriters.co.uk/stanza.php) and an [**envoy**](http://www.youngwriters.co.uk/envoy.php)**/**[**envoi**](http://www.youngwriters.co.uk/envoi.php)**.**

The rhyming pattern for the stanzas is: ababbcbC.

The rhyming pattern for the envoy is bcbC.

(The capital letter in the rhyming patterns shows where the [**refrain**](http://www.youngwriters.co.uk/refrain.php) should be.)

**blank verse** - no rhyme but does have iambic pentameter. This means it consists of lines of five feet, each foot being iambic, meaning two syllables long, one stressed followed by an unstressed.

**cinquain** - five lines that do not [**rhyme**](http://www.youngwriters.co.uk/rhyme.php). Each line has a set number of [**syllables**](http://www.youngwriters.co.uk/syllable.php):

Line 1 – 2 syllables  
Line 2 – 4 Syllables   
Line 3 – 6 Syllables   
Line 4 – 8 syllables   
Line 5 – 2 syllables

**concrete or shape** - describes an object and is shaped the same as the object the poem is describing (shape poems are thematic shapes instead of literal)

**diamante** - made up of 7 lines using a set structure, the lines are always centered:

Line 1: Beginning subject  
Line 2: Two describing words about line 1  
Line 3: Three doing words about line 1  
Line 4: A short phrase about line 1, a short phrase about line 7  
Line 5: Three doing words about line 7  
Line 6: Two describing words about line 7  
Line 7: End subject

**diminished hexaverse** - contains stanzas of diminishing lines and syllables5 lines, ending with one word.

Stanza 1: Five lines each with five syllables

Stanza 2: Four lines each with four syllables

Stanza 3: Three lies each with three syllables

Stanza 4: Two lines each with two syllables

Stanza 5: One, one syllable word.

**free verse** - written with rhymed or unrhymed verse that has no set meter to it.

**haiku** poem - consists of 3 lines and 17 [**syllables**](http://www.youngwriters.co.uk/syllable.php):

Line 1 – 5 syllables   
Line 2 – 7 syllables 

**list** - A poem that is made up of a list of items or events, usually without transitional phrases. It can be any length and rhymed or unrhymed.

**lyric** - expresses personal and emotional feelings.

[**pantoum**](http://www.youngwriters.co.uk/pantoums-lesson-plan-ks3.php) - consists of any number of stanzas. It has a set pattern within the poem of repetitive lines, except for the last stanza.

The pattern in each stanza is where the second and fourth line of each verse is repeated as the first and third of the next. The pattern changes though for the last stanza to the first and third line are the second and fourth of the stanza above (penultimate). The last line is a repeat of the first starting line of the poem and the third line of the first is the second of the last.

**quatern** - sixteen line French form composed of four quatrains. It has a refrain that is in a different place in each quatrain.

The first line of stanza one is the second line of stanza two, third line of stanza three, and fouth line of stanza four.

**rondeau** - consists of fifteen lines that have two rhymes throughout. The first few words or phrase from the first line are repeated twice in the poem as a refrain.

It has three stanzas and its rhyme scheme is as follows:

A A B B A

A A B with refrain: C

A A B B A with concluding refrain C.

(The refrain must be identical with the beginning of the first line.)

[**sonnet**](http://www.youngwriters.co.uk/sonnets-workshop.php) – expresses a thought or idea made up of 14 lines, each being 10 syllables long.

abab

cdcd

efef

gg

**villanelle** - 19-line poem consisting of five tercets and a final quatrain on two rhymes. The first and third lines of the first tercet repeat alternately as a refrain closing the succeeding stanzas and joined as the final couplet of the quatrain.