

“Poetry is what in a poem makes you laugh, cry, prickle, be silent, makes your toenails twinkle, makes you know that you want to do this or that or nothing, makes you know that you are alone in the unknown world, that your bliss and suffering is forever shared and forever all your own.” — Dylan Thomas

## Poems About Me

### Formula Poems

#### I Am Poem

##### 1st Stanza

I am (two special characteristics you have).  
I wonder (something you are actually curious about).  
I hear (an imaginary sound).  
I see (an imaginary sight).  
I want (an actual desire).  
I am (the first line of the poem repeated).

##### 2nd Stanza

I pretend (something you actually pretend to do).  
I feel (a feeling about something imaginary).  
I touch (an imaginary touch).  
I worry (something that really bothers you).  
I cry (something that makes you very sad).  
I am (the first line of the poem repeated).

##### 3rd Stanza

I understand (something you know is true).  
I say (something you believe in).  
I dream (something you actually dream about).  
I try (something you really make an effort about).  
I hope (something you actually hope for).  
I am (the first line of the poem repeated).

Persona Poem

	requirement	example	your poem
Line 1:	First name/nickname of the person in the poem	Kate	
Line 2:	4 adjectives which describe the person	tall, energetic, happy, intelligent	
Line 3:	X of Y formula, describing an important relationship to the person	mother of Danny	
Line 4:	3 things s/he loves	who loves music, books and fresh air	
Line 5:	3 things that scare her/him	who is afraid of President Bush, spiders and heights	
Line 6:	3 things s/he wants to see	who wants to see Latin America, the end of poverty and summer	
Line 7:	resident of...+ place/time/concept	resident of this moment	
Line 8:	last name of the person in the poem	Thompson	

### HAIKU (Nature Poem)

requirements	example 1	example 2	your idea
5 syllables	I saw a leaf fall	Night noise, I'm awake	
7 syllables	Then rise again to the branch	far off wailing haunting me	
5 syllables	A moth had fooled me	Coyote sings his song	

### TANKA

The Tanka poem is very similar to haiku but Tanka poems have more syllables and it uses simile, metaphor and personification.

There are five lines in a Tanka poem.

Line one - 5 syllables	Beautiful mountains
Line two - 7 syllables	Rivers with cold, cold water.
Line three - 5 syllable	White cold snow on rocks
Line four - 7 syllables	Trees over the place with frost
Line five - 7 syllables	White sparkly snow everywhere.

**An acrostic poem** is a type of poetry where the first, last or other letters in a line spell out a particular word or phrase. The most common and simple form of an acrostic poem is where the first letters of each line spell out the word or phrase.

**Example - An acrostic poem using the beginning of lines**

A n acrostic poem  
C reates a challenge  
R andom words on a theme  
O r whole sentences that rhyme  
S elect your words carefully  
T o form a word from top to bottom  
I s the aim of this poetry style  
C hoose a word then go!

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

**Example - An acrostic poem using the end of lines**

Just woken up, I'm famished! Fancy a banan A  
Oh dear, none in the fruit bowl. Wish I could do magi C  
Like Harry Potter. Over there I do see a pea R  
That's boring. How about sausages and mashed potat O?  
Check the fridge - there's only mouldy cheese and two grape S  
Even with my skills, I can't make much with tha T  
What I really want is sweets, shame there's only a kiw I  
Phew, food dilemma over. I've been invited to a picnic C!

Finally, the more difficult type is where letters in the middle of the acrostic spell out the word or phrase.

**Example - An acrostic poem using the middle of the lines**

Fancy Writing A poem?  
Pi C k a topic of your choice  
You can w R ite about anything  
Let y O ur imagination run wild  
Choo S e the right words  
Writing your T houghts on paper  
Nothing is I mpossible  
Be C reative!