



Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fun With Poetry!**  
**Mr. Ruiter**

During this unit, you will be expected to participate in various activities to prepare yourself for writing poems. You will need to do a rough copy for every poem. Choose 5 (five) poetry styles from the list below and create beautiful poetry. Experiment with the different forms to create something you like. Add music and pictures if you wish. Experimenting with poetry teaches us to use language in subtle and complex ways.

Criteria

1. Haiku
2. Tanka
3. Cinquin
4. Quinzaine
5. Acrostic
6. Clerihew
7. Diamante
8. Parody
9. Contrast
10. Crazy Creature
11. Limerick
12. Concrete
13. Free Verse
  
14. Sonnet
15. Narrative-Ballad

<b>MEANING</b>	Uses concise language (few words say a great deal) that shows control of written conventions of language. Emotion or feelings are explored or revealed. Is original. Message is effective and complete.
<b>STYLE</b>	Appropriate use of connotative language (poetic devices are words which carry an implied or symbolic meaning, figurative language, imagery, and stylistic devices. I.e. : similes, metaphors, alliteration, onomatopoeias, etc.)
<b>FORM</b>	Required content is evident. (Follows rules of style) (Remember to use the evaluation sheets to meet the criteria for specific poems)



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This is the criteria for the poetry

## Poetry Rubric

Writing and illustrating a poem.

	Beginning 1	Developing 2	Accomplished 3	Exemplary 4	Score
Form	Uses an inappropriate poetic form.	May use an appropriate poetic form.	Effectively uses an appropriate poetic form.	Creatively uses an appropriate poetic form.	
Word Usage	Student's use of vocabulary is very basic.	Student's use of vocabulary is more telling than showing.	Student's use of vocabulary is routine and workable.	Student's use of vocabulary is precise, vivid, and paints a strong clear and complete picture in the reader's mind.	
Poetic Techniques (elements)	Uses few poetic techniques.	Uses some poetic techniques to reinforce the theme.	Uses poetic techniques to reinforce the theme.	Effectively uses poetic techniques to reinforce the theme.	
Language Conventions (spelling, grammar, punctuation)	May contain frequent and numerous errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation that interferes with the reader's understanding.	May contain many errors in spelling, grammar, and/or punctuation that may interfere with the reader's understanding.	Has mainly grade-level appropriate spelling, grammar, and punctuation; contains some errors that do not interfere with the reader's understanding.	Has grade-level appropriate spelling, grammar, and punctuation; contains few, if any, errors that do not interfere with the reader's understanding.	
Effort	Student's work lacks understanding of the assignment.	Student's work demonstrates some understanding of the assignment.	Student's work demonstrates an understanding of the assignment.	Student's work demonstrates a complete understanding of the assignment and goes beyond the requirements.	
Illustration	Lacks an illustration.	Uses an illustration that may add to the poem's meaning.	Uses an illustration to enhance the poem's meaning.	Effective and creative use of an illustration enhances the poem's meaning.	

Written by Christine Lewy. Last updated 05/03/01 .



Date \_\_\_\_\_

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## 1. Haiku

The haiku is a Japanese verse in three lines. Many original books of haiku verse in Japanese are illustrated gracefully with a pen. Haiku is a mood piece which captures the simple essence of nature. There is no metaphors nor similes, but often displays alliteration.

### Examples

Old crow in command  
Always foraging for food  
On his daily route

A colour riot  
Lilac bush bursts into bloom  
A splash of flowers



### Criteria for Haiku

- The author uses correct elements, 3 lines, unrhymed, and topic about nature.
- The poem has a title.
- All the lines refer to the same topic
- Line 1 - 5 Syllables
- Line 2 - 7 Syllables
- Line 3 - 5 Syllables

1. *Write a Haiku about nature following the above rules:*



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## 2. Tanka

This is another Japanese poetry form which is very similar to the haiku. This is different because it uses similes, metaphors, personification and more vivid images than a haiku. It has more syllables and is stronger and more expressive. The topics are not limited to nature but include: love, nature, sadness and seasons.

### Examples

White and silent snow  
Creates the winter landscape  
A peaceful blanket  
An artist's windswept canvas  
Falling, drifting, tender flakes

Have you seen my dog?  
Much more than a pet to me  
Smart, strong and loving  
No, her would never leave me  
I feel deep in my heart

### Criteria for Tanka

- The author uses correct elements, 5 lines, unrhymed, and topic is about either love, nature, sadness and seasons.
- The poem has a title.
- All the lines refer to the same topic
- Uses simile, metaphor and personification with vivid images
- Line 1 - 5 Syllables
- Line 2 - 7 Syllables
- Line 3 - 5 Syllables
- Line 4 - 7 Syllables
- Line 5 - 7 Syllables

生くるとは (5)  
IKURU TO WA

愛にこころを (7)  
AI NI KOKORO WO

砕くこと (5)  
KUDAKU KOTO

嘴合はず鳩は (8\*)  
KUCHIAWASU KOTO WA

日向をあゆむ (7)  
SHINATA WO AYUMU

上田三四二  
UEDA MIYOJI

2. Write your own Tanka following the above criteria



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### 3. Cinquain

An unrhymed form of poetry invented by Adelaid Crapsey whose topics were delicate and sad. The original cinquain (sin-cane) had a set number of five lines and syllabic pattern of two, four, six, with, and two. As form developed in schools there was a transformation of patterns and topics.

Examples:

**Dragon**  
**Fiery-wild**  
**Growing, feeding, razing**  
**Predator from the ancient past**  
**Monster**

**Hi, kid!**  
**Computer mail**  
**I send it to you fast**  
**A miracle of modern tech**  
**Bye, kid**



Criteria for cinquain

- The author uses correct elements, 5 lines, and unrhymed.
- The poem has a title.

Line	<input type="checkbox"/> Type 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Format 2/3
1	<input type="checkbox"/> a noun	<input type="checkbox"/> introduces/2 syllables
2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 adjectives	<input type="checkbox"/> describes/4 syllables
3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 ing verbs	<input type="checkbox"/> shows action/6 syllables
4	<input type="checkbox"/> statement about 3	<input type="checkbox"/> shows feeling/8 syllables
5	<input type="checkbox"/> another noun for 1	<input type="checkbox"/> summary/2 syllables

*3. Write your own Cinquain following the above criteria*



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### 4. Quinzaine

The English word quinzaine comes from the French word quinze, meaning fifteen. A quinzaine is an unrhymed verse of fifteen syllables over three lines.

#### Examples

Birds fly beneath darkened clouds.  
Do they sense the storm  
approaching?

Snow's white blanket covers all.  
Will spring ever break  
winter's hold?



#### Criteria for quinzaine:

- The author uses correct elements, 3 lines, and unrhymed.
- The first line makes a statement, while the next two lines ask a question relating to that statement.
- The poem has a title.
- Line 1 - 7 Syllables
- Line 2 - 5 Syllables
- Line 3 - 3 Syllables

4. *Write your own Quinzaine following the above criteria*



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### 5. Acrostic

In an acrostic poem the letters of the subject are written down (vertically) to form the word of choice. Next to each letter the poetic statement is written horizontally to express the subject in innovative ways.

Examples:

#### Me

**M**y heart beats inside me  
**E**very second of the day and night

#### Snow

Silent nights  
Nose gets red  
Old mittens  
Winter frost

By Jessica



#### Space Cadet

**S**ay, Kid,  
**P**lease come down to Earth  
**A**ll of us are waiting!  
**C**ould you please try?  
**E**nough of all your weird behaviour.

**C**an you settle down  
**A**nd act human and not like a  
**D**ing Dong?  
**E**ven your best friend is annoyed.  
**T**ake off that space helmet!

#### Criteria for Acrostic

- The author uses correct elements, which may rhyme.
- The title is used as the initial letter for one line (sentence not word)

5. *Write your own Acrostic following the above criteria*



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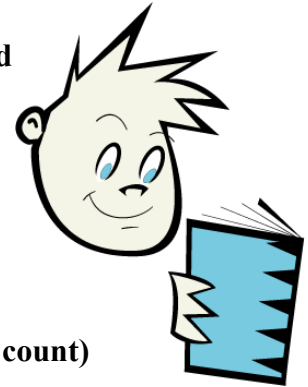
## 6. Clerihew

This humorous biographic form was named after its creator, Edmond Clerihew Bentley, who wrote the first Clerihew poem about himself. It is a quatrain (four lines) based upon someone's name and is designed to give a clue about the personality of the person in the poem. It has a distinctive rhyming scheme (aa bb). Finding rhyming words for names can be difficult, so the writer may use the first or the last name in order to compose a rhyme.

Examples:

**Earnest Babbage**  
Had the brains of a cabbage  
But she understood  
What it meant to be good

**Chuckie Lee Stein**  
Is thoughtful and kind  
If you are in need  
He'll be there indeed!



Criteria for Clerihew

- Is four lines
- Rhyme scheme of aa, bb,
- Rhythm not necessary, but does make poem stronger, (syllable count)
- Based upon someone's name
- Gives a clue about the personality of the person in poem

6. *Write your own Clerihew following the above criteria*





Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. Diamante

Diamante is the Italian word for diamond. The poetic form, created by the poet Iris Tiedt, takes the form of a diamond when it is completed. There are two patterns to choose from. Type one develops from one topic while type two starts with one theme and in the middle begins to move toward an opposite theme.

Examples:

**Star**  
**Famous, successful,**  
**Singing, dancing, shouting**  
**Mesmerizing the adoring audience**  
**Performing, working, reaching**  
**Frenzied, dazzling**  
**Showman**



Criteria for diamante

- The author uses correct elements, either 5 or 7 lines, about a topic or a comparison.
- poem has a title.
- The poem has a diamond shape.

Line	<input type="checkbox"/> Type #1	<input type="checkbox"/> Type # 2
1	<input type="checkbox"/> Topic (noun)	<input type="checkbox"/> one noun that names the first subject
2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 adjectives that describe topic	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 adjectives that describe the 1 <sup>st</sup> subject
3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 action words (verbs)	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 ing words that are related to 1 <sup>st</sup>
4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 word phrase capturing some feeling about the topic	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 nouns, the 1 <sup>st</sup> two related to the 1 <sup>st</sup> subject, the 2 <sup>nd</sup> two related to the 2 <sup>nd</sup> subject
5	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 action words (verbs)	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 ing words that are related to 2 <sup>nd</sup>
6	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 adjectives that describe topic	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 adjectives that describe the 2 <sup>nd</sup> subject
7	<input type="checkbox"/> A synonym for an ending word	<input type="checkbox"/> one noun that names the 2 <sup>nd</sup> subject

7. *Write your own Diamante following the above criteria*



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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## 8. Parody

A parody is a poem, story, or song in which an author's style is closely imitated for comic effect. Often Nursery Rhymes are used to parody.

### Examples

**Little Miss Crocker**

Sat in her rocker

Eating a burger and fries.

Along came a bee

And perched on her knee

Giving her quite a surprise!

Zach, be clumsy.

Zach, be slow.

Zach tripped over his own big toe!

### Criteria for Parody

- ❑ The author uses correct elements (alliteration, metaphors etc) which parody another piece.
- ❑ Rhythm and rhyme of original piece are copied.
- ❑ The poem has a title.



8. *Write your own Parody following the above criteria*



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## 9. Contrast

A contrast poem has two parts that show different sides, or aspects, of the same subject. There is no set lines or syllable counts, however the second part models the first part.

Examples:

### Signs of Spring

Rusty cans  
lie among  
broken bottles and  
hamburger wrappers.

A blade of grass  
pokes through the rubbish,  
and tiny yellow flowers  
lift their heads.

### Dog Days

The frisky puppy  
barks and jumps  
as he chases the butterfly.

The old dog  
rests on the porch  
preferring to watch.



Criteria for Contrast:

- The author uses correct elements with rhythm and with or without rhyme.
- The poem has two parts which show different sides, or aspects of the same subject
- The poem has a title.

9. *Write your own Contrast following the above criteria*



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### 10. Crazy Creature

A crazy creature is one in which the poet describes an imaginary animal that possesses some of the features and exhibits some of the characteristics of two or more real animals. The title of a crazy creature poem is often created by combining parts of the names of these animals.

Examples:

#### Duck-e-phant

He waddles when he walks  
And he quacks when he talks,  
But on the ground he'll have to stay.  
He runs and jumps and flaps and falls,  
'Cause his ears get in the way.

“How will I get from here to there?”  
He cried and quacked and squawked.  
“If my wings and ears don't soon make friends,  
I'll just pack my trunk and walk!”

Criteria for Crazy Creature:

- The author uses correct elements with rhythm and with rhyme.
- The poem has a title.
- The creature exhibits features of two or more animals.
- The name is derived from all animals described in creature.

10. *Write your own Crazy Creature following the above criteria*





Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### 11. Limerick

Edward Lear (1812-1888) wielded a masterful hand with this form and was given the credit for popularizing it. Limericks make fun of everything and everybody. The rhythm of a limerick is captivating and helps the listener catch on. There is a distinctive syllable count for each of the 5 lines.

Examples:

Before we even said grace  
He sat and filled up his face  
He gorged on salami  
Ate all the pastrami  
Then exploded with nary a trace

There once was a girl named Maureen  
Who wished she were skinny and lean  
But she loved pizza pie,  
Pastrami on rye,  
And ate till her plate was clean

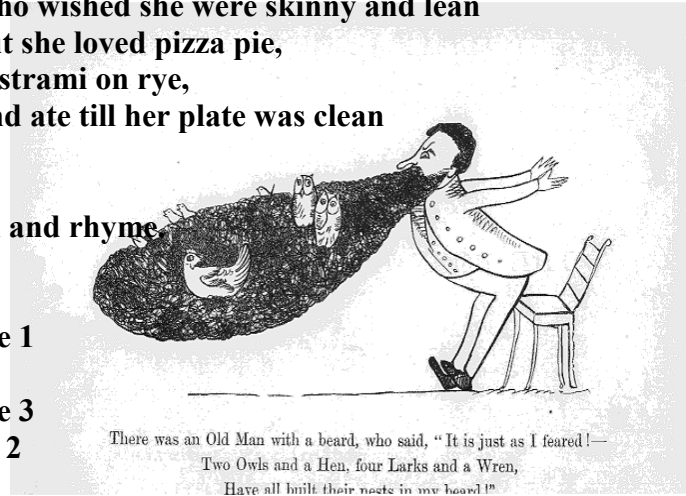
#### Criteria for Limerick

- the author uses correct elements, 5 lines, rhythm and rhyme
- The poem has a title.
- Line 1 - 8 Syllables
- Line 2 - 8 Syllables
- Line 3 - 5 Syllables
- Line 4 - 5 Syllables
- Line 5 - 8 Syllables

rhymes with line 1

rhymes with line 3

rhymes with line 1 and 2



11. Write your own Limerick following the above criteria



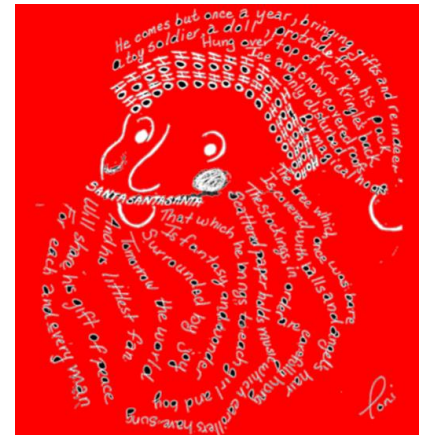
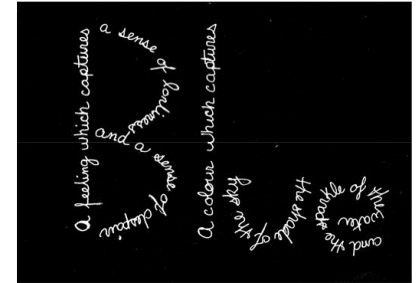
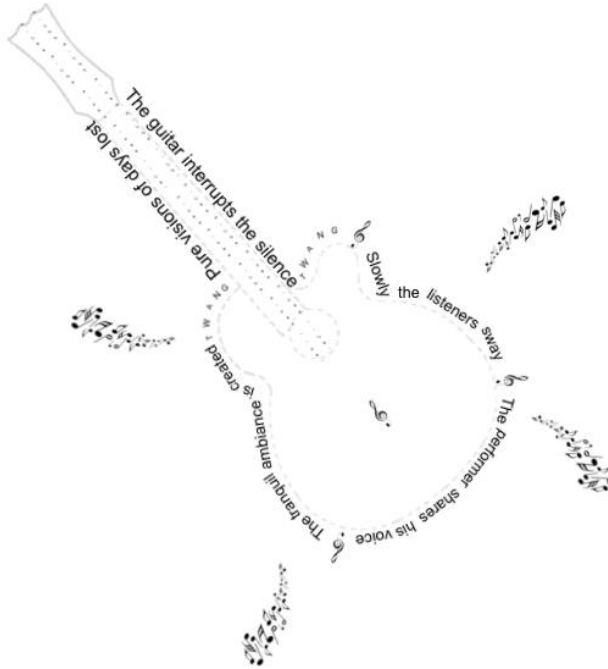
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## 12. Concrete

Concrete poetry is visual word expression, It captures the essence of very specific words and works them through in observable physical ways. It can be in the shape of the subject or even a play on words. You can see howl through an open mouth, you can see a pop art sunflower as large as life, the word smash or a human struggling between a rock and a hard place! Or a pie in the sky floating in clouds. The concrete represents objects using idioms, proverbs or short expressions.

### Examples



### Criteria for Concrete

- ❑ The author uses correct elements with poem written in the shape of the subject.
- ❑ The poem has a title.
- ❑ The author uses words or phrases to describe

## 12. Write your own Concrete following the above criteria

*Use paper and pen, Power Point, or Apple Works*

Ideas: a swimming suit, a skyscraper, an eggplant, bouncing ball, a broken heart, a hot dog to go, time flies, flooring it, a hairy problem, a face which would stop a clock, drop in, a head light



Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### 13. Free Verse

A free verse has no rhyme scheme and no stanza pattern. Without these usual poetic elements, it depends entirely on the power of its imagery to be classified as poetry.

Example:

#### A Long-haired Boy

A long-haired boy, a girl  
 talked hand in hand in a sun-soaked field  
 for along time she talked, he thought  
 for a long time, he talked, she thought  
     she stood up, their eyes met,  
     he caught her arm, she turned  
 into the sun, head held high, she walked  
 he stood, thought, with her in his mind  
     walked, into the sun, not following.

Late on a cool fall night  
 while sitting on the river bank  
 I noticed how the ripples  
 cast a different texture to the setting sun  
 The colors of the sky  
 just right for this season  
 Red, orange, yellow, purple even a tinge of blue  
 The river seems to mix them  
 like a kaleidoscope  
 Seems there is no end to beauty  
 as this endless array goes on and on  
 Then the distant sound of the frogs and crickets  
 keeping time to this dancing spectacular  
 Then my heart goes quiet my pulse slows down  
 I lay back to thank my maker

William Wayland Halbert, Jr.

#### Criteria for Free Verse

- The author uses correct elements with rhythm and with or without rhyme.
- The poem has a title.
- Words and phrases are used and ordered to make sense.

13. *Write your own Free Verse following the above criteria*





Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## 14. Sonnet

The sonnet has a fixed 14 lines of 10 syllables each. It is usually written in iambic pentameter- much like the rhythm of natural speech. There are four parts, with three quatrains and an ending couplet. The last couplet sums up the poem. It follows specific rhyming scheme.

### I'm Not a Baby Anymore!

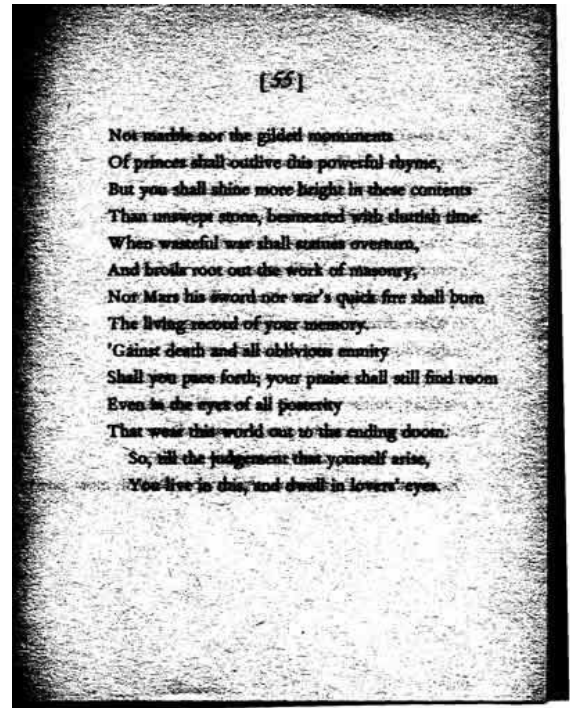
It was silent on our street – late at night  
 My folks in nightclothes hovered at the door  
 This was the reason for another fight  
 I knew in my heart the pain that was in store

Now once again they said, “You didn’t call!”  
 We argued while my father paced the room  
 I told them I forgot—that says it all!  
 For them it was the painful voice of gloom.

“You could be hurt—you gave us a scare!  
 I never meant to give them so much grief  
 These endless battles fill me with despair  
 I’ve heard it all before – I need relief

They say when I am grown that I will see.  
 I know for sure we never agree!

G.B. Lipson



### Criteria for sonnet

- The lyric poem has 14 lines with four divisions.
- Each of the divisions have separate rhyme-schemes of its own
- First divisions (quatrain) has rhyming scheme abab.
- Second quatrain has scheme cdcd
- Third quatrain has scheme efef
- Final division (couplet) has scheme dd
- The poem has a title.
- The poem has a rhythmic (10 syllable) count.

### 14. Write your own Sonnet following the above criteria



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## 15. Narrative-Ballad

**Narrative Poem-** tells a story of a person or subject. There are two kinds of Narrative poetry, one is epics, and the other is ballads. An epic poem describes the actions of heroes in battle between human beings. Other epics are poems of history or people's origins. An epic poem is one of the oldest surviving narrative poems. The *Iliad* and *The Odyssey* are two of the best western epic poems of all times. These two poems were written during 700 B.C. They were written from the Greek poet, Homer. (Not Homer Simpson!) Ballads tell shorter stories about a certain person. For example, Ballads would be written about Robin Hood or King Arthur. Modern ballads tell of the trials and tribulations of modern heroes or wannabe heroes.



Example

<http://www.robirda.com/legends/mcgee.html>

Criteria for Narrative

- uses correct elements using a story format in several stanzas.
- Characters are introduced in the poem.
- A problem is described in the poem.
- A plot develops (attempts to resolve problem)
- The problem is resolved.
- The poem has a definite and detailed introduction.
- The poem has a definite and detailed conclusion.
- The poem has a title.
- The poem has a rhythmic (syllable) count.
- The poem has a rhyming pattern. (aabb, abab, etc)

**15. Write your own Ballad following the above criteria**



Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Planning Your Ballad

Before you begin to write your ballad, make sure to know the following about the poem. Use Inspirations to plan your ballad.

