

Additional poetic terms:

Stanza—a grouped set of lines in a poem, usually physically set off from other such clusters by a blank line.

Rhyme—the repetition of identical vowel sounds in the stressed syllables of two or more words.

Rhyme Scheme—is the pattern of rhymed words in a poem. (Ex. abab cdcd efef gg)

Near rhyme/half-rhyme/slant rhyme—is rhyme in which words contain similar sounds but do not rhyme perfectly. \*Emily Dickinson is famous for this!

Meter—the more or less regular patten of stressed and unstressed syllables in poetry.

Stress—the emphasis placed on a syllable.

Blank verse—any unrhymed verse, but usually referring to unrhymed iambic pentameter. \*Shakespeare's favorite form!

Free verse—poetry that lacks a regular meter, does not rhyme, and uses irregular, and sometimes very short line lengths.

Shakespearean sonnet—a fourteen-line sonnet consisting of three quatrains and a couplet. The rhyme scheme is abab cdcd efef gg.

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Petrarchan (or Italian) sonnet—a fourteen line sonnet consisting of two parts: the octave has a rhyme scheme of abbaabba and the following sestet has a rhyme scheme of cdecde. \*Octave has eight lines, sestet has six lines.

Villanelle—a French form consisting of nineteen lines in five tercets (3-line stanzas) followed by a quatrain with the rhyme scheme aba aba aba aba abaa. The first line of the first tercet is repeated as the last line of the second and fourth tercets, while the third line of the first tercet is repeated as the last line of the third and fifth tercets. Finally, these two lines are repeated as a couplet in the last two lines of the quatrain.