

POEM STRUCTURES

These activities encourage students to use various poetic structures.

1: DIAMANTE
POEM

Diamante Poem

A diamante poem has seven lines that describe a person or an object in a special way.

Centre-align the poem. You can see that it takes on the shape of a diamond. The word 'diamante' is Italian for diamond. Example:

Diamond
hard, bright
sparkling, glittering, reflecting
love, happiness, ring, wedding
caring, loving, lasting
pretty, precious
gem

This type of diamante poem uses **synonyms**. A synonym is a word that has the same (or nearly the same) meaning as another word.

The structure is as follows:

- Line 1: one noun or pronoun (name of something)
- Line 2: two adjectives (describing)
- Line 3: three participles ('ing' words)
- Line 4: four nouns (naming words)
- Line 5: three participles or verbs
- Line 6: two adjectives
- Line 7: one noun (a synonym for the first line)

Write your own diamante poem!

Choose your own noun for line 1. This could be your special object.

Now create the rest of the poem, based on the diamante structure and all inspired by your first line!

Share with your class.

Submit this poem, or another poem based on your special object, to the Poetry Object competition.

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2: Q&A POEM

Q&A Poem

A Q&A (question and answer) poem consists of a list of questions that help the reader to guess the subject matter of the poem. It is usually quite a short poem, perhaps 8-10 lines in length.

The second-last line of the poem is usually a question, like 'What is it?' or 'Who am I?'

The final line of the poem usually reveals the poem's subject. So avoid titles that give away your poem's subject!

Example:

Plastic Fun

It's small,

8 studs on top.

It's been around for 52 years

extremely popular.

What is it?

Lego!

Write your own Q&A poem!

Choose your subject: it could be your special object.

Now create the poem, giving clues and then finally revealing the subject at the end.

Share with your class.

Submit this poem, or another poem based on your special object, to the Poetry Object competition.