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PRE-WRITING  
EXERCISES

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## PRE-WRITING EXERCISES: DIAMANTE POEM and Q & A POEM

### THE DIAMANTE POEM

A diamante has seven lines that describe a person or an object in a special way. If students centre the poem they can see that the diamante 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

Read on to find out how you can make your own diamante poem!



## DIAMANTE POEM

This type of diamante poem is sometimes known as a Synonym Diamante poem. A synonym is a word having the same or nearly the same meaning as another word.

The first and last lines of the poem on the previous page contain synonyms "diamond" and "gem".

Line 1: one noun or pronoun (name of something)

Line 2: two adjectives (describing)

Line 3: three participles ("ing" words)

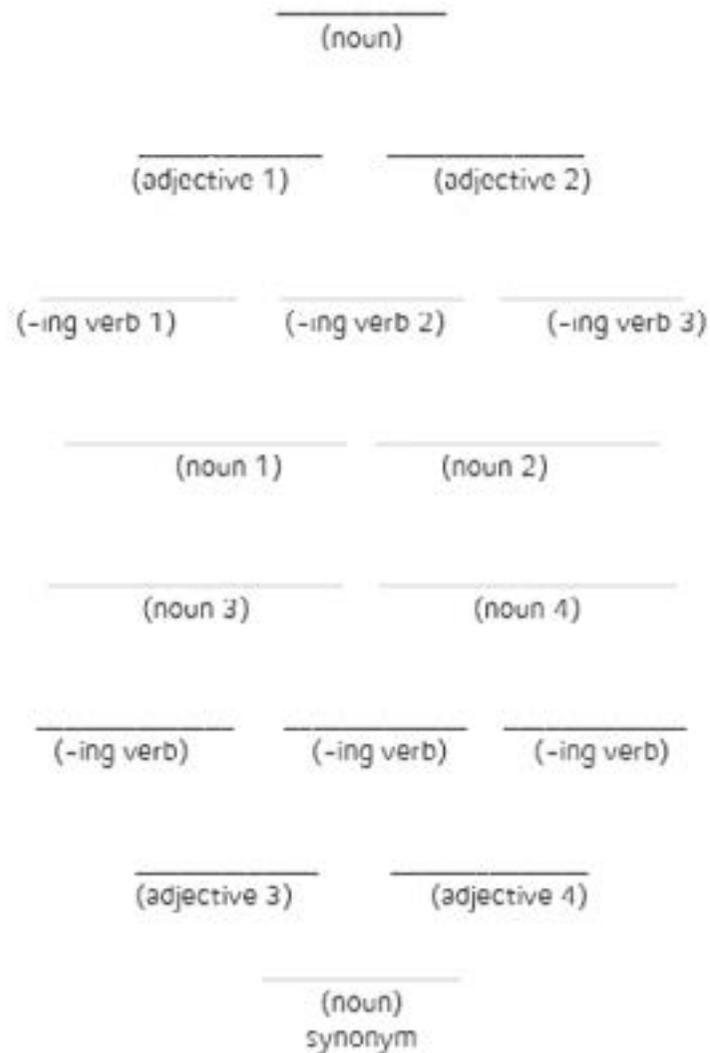
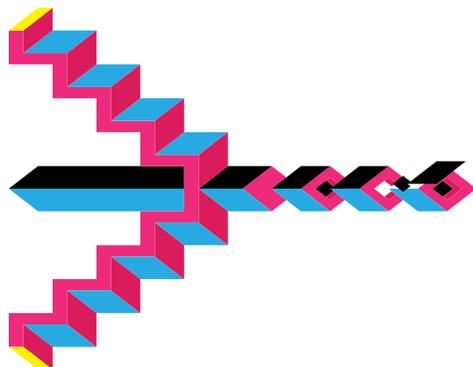
Line 4: four nouns (name words)

Line 5: three participles or verbs

Line 6: two adjectives

Line 7: one noun (a synonym for the first line)

The structure or "scaffolding" should look something like this:



## OBJECT POEM/Q & A POEM

This type of object poem is sometimes known as a Q and A , or question and answer poem. It is usually quite a short poem, perhaps 8-10 lines in length.

### STRUCTURE

A Q and A poem consists of a list of questions that help the reader to guess the subject matter of the poem.

The second last line of the poem is usually a question. "What is it?" or "Who am I?"

The final line of the poem is usually only one word.

It is a good idea to avoid titles that give away the subject of the poem!

The title can be a clue to the subject of the poem.



### PLASTIC FUN

It's small,  
8 studs on top.  
It's been around for 52 years  
extremely popular.  
What is it?  
Lego!

