

# Structured Poems Guide

A structured poem is a type of poem that follows a given format. Here are examples of the three types of structured poems we talked about in class.

## Haiku:

"Haiku" is a traditional form of Japanese poetry. Haiku poems consist of 3 lines. The first and last lines of a Haiku have 5 syllables and the middle line has 7 syllables. The lines rarely rhyme.

Here's a Haiku to help you remember:

I am first with five  
Then seven in the middle  
Five again to end.

## Cinquain:

Line 1 is one word (the title)  
Line 2 is two words that describe the title.  
Line 3 is three words that tell the action  
Line 4 is four words that express the feeling  
Line 5 is one word that recalls the title

## ABC:

An ABC poem has a series of lines that create a mood, picture, or feeling. Lines are made up of words and phrases. The first word of line 1 begins with an A, the first word of line 2 begins with a B etc.

Example:

A lthough things are not perfect  
B ecause of trial or pain  
C ontinue in thanksgiving  
D o not begin to blame  
E ven when the times are hard  
F ierce winds are bound to blow