

Limerick

Today, we are going to look at a different type of poem called a limerick. Look at the next page to read some examples. Can you write down what you notice is similar about each one?

Limerick

What is
similar?

There once was a young man from Ealing,
Who always would hang from the ceiling.
He couldn't wear a hat,
But could hang like a bat,
And said, "What a wonderful feeling!"



There once was a wonderful star,
Who thought she would go very far,
Until she fell down,
And looked like a clown,
She knew she would never go far.



Limerick

Lines 1, 2 and 5
rhyme.

Lines 3 and 4
rhyme.

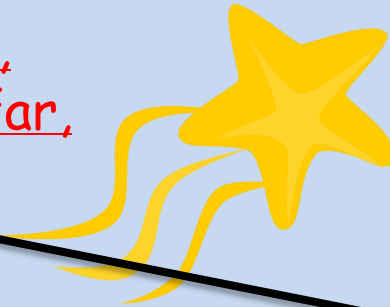
There once was a young man from Ealing,
Who always would hang from the ceiling.
He couldn't wear a hat,
But could hang like a bat,
And said, "What a wonderful feeling!"

We say that the
rhyming pattern is

AABBA

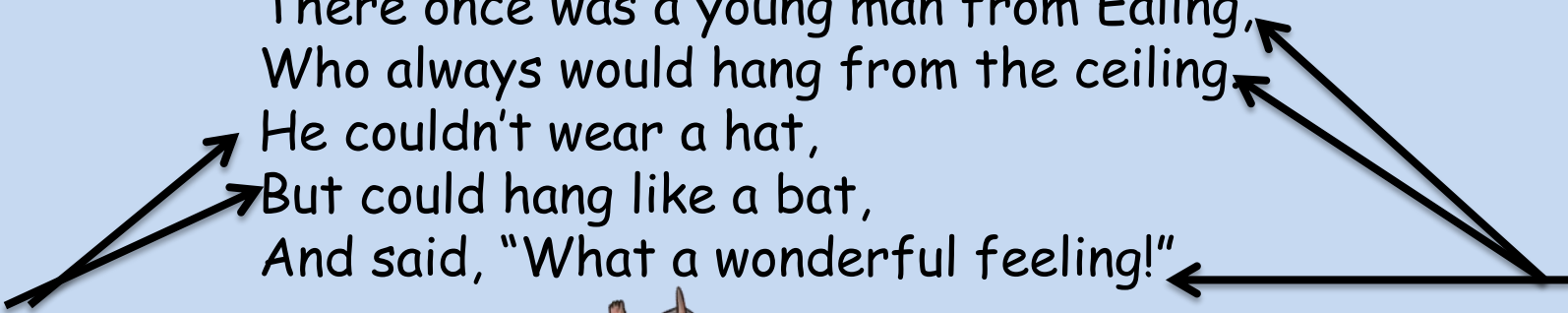


A: There once was a wonderful star,
A: Who thought she would go very far,
B: Until she fell down,
B: And looked like a clown,
A: She knew she would never go far.



Capital letters
at the start of
each line and a
comma at the
end.

There once was a young man from Ealing,
Who always would hang from the ceiling,
He couldn't wear a hat,
But could hang like a bat,
And said, "What a wonderful feeling!"



Lines 3 and 4 are shorter, with the same number of syllables (5-6).



Lines 1, 2 and 5 are longer and have approximately the same number of syllables (usually 8-10) in each.

Limericks follow a typical rhythm:

di DUM di di DUM di di DUM dum (3 beats)

di DUM di di DUM di di DUM dum (3 beats)

di DUM di di DUM (2 beats)

di DUM di di DUM (2 beats)

di DUM di di DUM di di DUM dum (3 beats)

Most limericks follow this structure and pattern, but not all.

1. There once was a _____ from _____,
2. Who _____.
3. He _____,
4. And/but/then _____.
5. _____.

Here is an example,

A creature of charm is the gerbil,
Its diet's exclusively herbal,
It grazes all day,
On bunches of hay,
Passing gas with an elegant burble.



Let's summarise!

Limericks aren't easy poems to write but they are good fun and they sound good when they are finished!

- They have 5 very rhythmic lines.
- The rhyming pattern is AABBA
- Lines 3 and 4 must rhyme.
- Lines 1, 2 and 5 must rhyme.
- Line 1, 2 and 5 have 3 beats
- Line 3 and 4 have two beats

See if you can complete this limerick! Maybe you could do on about yourself?

1. There once was a _____ from _____,

2. Who _____.

3. He _____,

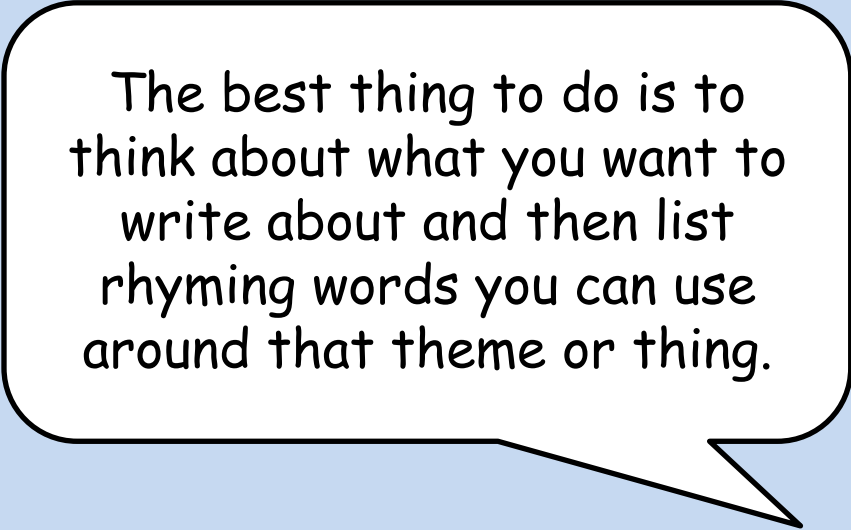
4. And/but/then _____.

5. _____.

The best thing to do is to think about what you want to write about and then list rhyming words you can use around that theme or thing.

Extension:

Can you write another limerick using the same rules but a different structure to the one you have just done?



The best thing to do is to think about what you want to write about and then list rhyming words you can use around that theme or thing.

If you have time at the end of this lesson spend some time practising your spellings using look, say, cover, write, check or ask someone else to test you on them.

<p>LOOK</p> 	<p>Look at the word. How many parts are there? What are the tricky bits? Can you find any spelling patterns?</p>
<p>SAY</p> 	<p>Say the word to yourself. Break the word into syllables. How many parts are there? What sounds can you hear?</p>
<p>COVER</p> 	<p>Cover up the word so you cannot see it. Picture the word in your mind.</p>
<p>WRITE</p> 	<p>Write down the word, remembering how it sounds and what it looks like.</p>
<p>CHECK</p> 	<p>Check to see if it is correct. Tick the letters you got correct. Write the word correctly if you made any mistakes.</p>

This is the Year 3 and 4 spelling list. Children should be able to spell these by the end of Year 4. You could do your own spelling test with some of these or maybe create a game with them to help you learn them. Your weekly spellings may include some of these.

Year 3 and 4 Statutory Spellings

accident	caught	eighth	heard	minute	possible	strange
accidentally	centre	enough	heart	natural	potatoes	strength
actual	century	exercise	height	naughty	pressure	suppose
actually	certain	experience	history	notice	probably	surprise
address	circle	experiment	imagine	occasion	promise	therefore
answer	complete	extreme	increase	occasionally	purpose	though
appear	consider	famous	important	often	quarter	although
arrive	continue	favourite	interest	opposite	question	thought
believe	decide	February	island	ordinary	recent	through
bicycle	describe	forward	knowledge	particular	regular	various
breath	different	forwards	learn	peculiar	reign	weight
breathe	difficult	fruit	length	perhaps	remember	woman
build	disappear	grammar	library	popular	sentence	women
busy	early	group	material	position	separate	
business	earth	guard	medicine	possess	special	
calendar	eight	guide	mention	possession	straight	

I will put a set of spellings up each week that you can learn at home. It will have the previous weeks spellings and the next weeks spellings (you only get 5 new ones each week, recapping the 5 from the previous week). Spend about 10 minutes at the beginning/end of every SPAG lesson to learn this weeks spelling using look, say, cover, write and check.

If you are able to, ask someone to test you on these spellings at home.

This weeks spellings

misuse

misplaced

misbehave

mistreated

misspell

revisit

revise

reapply

require

request

The prefix 'im'
meaning
not/opposite.

The prefix 're'
meaning to do
it again.