

English

Introduction to Poetry: What makes a poem, a poem?

Lesson 2 of 8

Ms Krzebietka



Read through the following texts and answer these questions about each:

- 1) Is this a poem?
- 2) Why or why not?

Note: Use an online dictionary to look up words you don't understand.

You are Old, Father William

Lewis Carroll

“You are old, Father William,” the young man said,
“And your hair has become very white;
And yet you incessantly stand on your head –
Do you think, at your age, it is right?”

“In my youth,” Father William replied to his son,
“I feared it might injure the brain;
But, now that I'm perfectly sure I have none,
Why, I do it again and again.”



***I do/do not think this an example of a poem
because...***

Here are some
words/phrases you might
want to use:

Thoughts

Organised

Feelings

Unique pattern

Experiences

Rules of grammar



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Verses to a Child
Emily Bronte

Just then thou didst recall to me
A distant long forgotten scene,
One smile, and one sweet word from thee
Dispelled the years that rolled between;
I was a little child again,
And every after joy and pain
 Seemed never to have been.

Tall forest trees waved over me,
To hide me from the heat of day,
And by my side a child like thee
Among the summer flowerets lay.
He was thy sire, thou merry child.
Like thee he spoke, like thee he
smiled,
 Like thee he used to play.

Glossary:
Thou = You
Thee = You



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The Tyger

William Blake

Tyger Tyger, burning bright,
In the forests of the night;
What immortal hand or eye,
Could frame thy fearful symmetry?

In what distant deeps or skies.
Burnt the fire of thine eyes?
On what wings dare he aspire?
What the hand, dare seize the fire?

And what shoulder, & what art,
Could twist the sinews of thy heart?
And when thy heart began to beat,
What dread hand? & what dread feet?

What the hammer? what the chain,
In what furnace was thy brain?
What the anvil? what dread grasp,
Dare its deadly terrors clasp!

When the stars threw down their spears
And water'd heaven with their tears:
Did he smile his work to see?
Did he who made the Lamb make thee?

Tyger Tyger burning bright,
In the forests of the night:
What immortal hand or eye,
Dare frame thy fearful symmetry?



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