

Tasmin Hansmann

# Write Poetry That Has An Impact

## Class Project

**Share a poem that you wrote that moved you and /or means a lot to you.**

If you have written it while taking this course, awesome! If you have experimented with a new style, language or format for your poetry, I would love to see it.

Please elaborate why the poem you chose means so much to you and how this topic and this poem have brought change to your life or the world around you.

Remember:

**Do not be intimidated by the work of others.**

**Your voice is valid, wonderful and deserves to be heard!**

Feel free to share it in the way you feel most comfortable: In a graphic or image, simple text or maybe even a link to a publication that includes the poem. If you have published a poetry collection or are an active writer on social media, please feel free to share the link in your project.

## Lessons Summarized:

- **Find your WHY** (either inside yourself or in the world around you)
- Decide on **the message you want to share**
- Try some of the **many different style or writing techniques** to figure out what suits you and your WHY best
- Enter the **flow state** to write
- Write from your heart and with **intention**
- **Let your work rest** for a while and review it later
- Being bored sparks creativity ([source](#))
- **Do not let failure stop you** from writing
- **Share your poetry.** Be courageous, publish it, read it, perform it, post it.

# Types of Poetry

(this list is incomplete)

- **Spoken Word:** All about performance and oral presentation.  
Can contain elements of rap, hip-hop, storytelling, theater and more!  
Characteristics: rhyme, repetition, improvisation, word play  
They often refer to social justice, politics, etc.  
Often found in so-called „slams“ where performers compete in front of an audience.
- **Black Out Poetry:** You take a written longer text and black out most of it until the remaining words form a poem.
- **Haiku:** ancient form of Japanese poetry,  
just three lines (tercet); the first and third lines have five syllables, whereas the second has seven, do not have to rhyme
- **Ballad:** An old and traditional European form of poetry, originally from the Middle Ages.  
Typically four lines (quatrain) and have a rhyme scheme of ABAB or ABCB and performed with music  
Loose rules.
- **Free verse:** In the lines of modern poetry, does not really follow any rules
- **Pantun:** Originally from Indonesia and/or Malaysia,  
four lines of equal length with the rhyme scheme AAAA.  
The first two lines are a proverb or riddle, the other two are the meaning and give the answer to the first two lines.
- **Twin Cinema:** A new form of poetry invented in Singapore in 2010  
Composed in two columns  
Those can be read separately (up and down) or together (side to side) and every time the poem becomes a different meaning.
- **Novels in Vers:** You can also write entire novels in verse or poetry form.
- **Sonnet:** Made famous by William Shakespeare, but originally from Italy  
Originally a 14-line poem written in iambic pentameter, nowadays loose are more loose
- **Ode:** one of the oldest forms of poetry, from Greece  
Used to be performed with music  
Subject is praise for a person, event or thing  
Short in length
- **Kōel:** from Southeast Asia /the Pacific  
three-line form, the first and last lines repeat vowel sounds (assonance) and the middle repeats consonants (alliteration).  
The kōel sounds like birdsong+
- **Yadu:** Also called Burmese climbing rhyme, from Myanmar / Burma  
This type of poem has rhymes that move from the end of the first line to the middle of the next, with a new end rhyme that moves to the middle, etc. Interlocking rhymes often refer to the changing seasons.
- **Syair:** Epic form from Malaysia  
Tells tales of historical and mythic events  
Sung in front of an audience as well as written down.  
Pattern: four lines with AAAA rhymes.
- **Sijo:** From Korea  
three-line poem with 14-16 syllables per line.  
The first line introduces the topic, the second line either develops or “turns” the subject so you look at it from another perspective, and the third line provides a final twist.
- **Kural:** This is a type of ancient Tamil poetry, therefore from India and Sri Lanka  
Only two lines: four words in the first line, and three in the second line.
- **Ghazal:** usually written in Urdu (so from North India / Pakistan)  
performed with music  
about very passionate and personal topics, like love
- **Devotional:** Oldest form of Indian poetry as many of their religious text were written in poetic form, either as devotional or epic

- **Limerick:** Funny or rude poems, made popular by Edward Lear  
Rhyme scheme of AABBA  
Lines one, two and five all being longer in length than lines three and four.  
The last line is often the punchline
- **Vilanelle:** A very complicated form of poetry, originally from France  
19 lines; five stanzas of three lines (tercet) each and a final stanza of four lines (quatrain)  
Rhyme scheme: ABA ABA ABA ABA ABA ABAA (so only 2 rhymes)  
A lot of repetition (Line one will be repeated in lines 6, 12 and 18; and line three will be repeated in lines 9, 15 and 19)
- **Sestina:** Also from France and also complicated  
Does not have to rhyme, but repetition is important  
Six stanzas of six lines each, and a closing stanza of three lines  
The six words that end the lines of the first stanza get repeated at the line endings of each of the remaining stanzas, and all six words appear in the poem's final three lines
- **Pathya Vat:** originally from Cambodia  
four lines, where the second and third line must rhyme.  
In case the poem has more than one verse, the last line of the first stanza and the second and third lines of the next must rhyme  
Meant to be spoken out loud or sung
- **Chastushka:** A humorous or ironical russian type of poetry  
Quatrain with the rhyme scheme ABCB, ABAB or AABB  
Often performed with music
- **Daina:** A lesser known form of poetry from Latvia  
Quatrain, similar to haiku, loose rules when it comes to topics, etc
- **Acrostic:** The first letter of each line forms a word, name or a sentence when read from top to bottom

## Poetry Glossary

**Rhyme scheme:** the pattern of rhyme that comes at the end of each line or verse.

**Syllable:** the single, unbroken sound of a spoken or written word.

**Stanza:** a set amount of lines in poetry grouped together by their length, meter or rhyme scheme.

—> e.g. a **Couplet** is a two-line stanza, a **Tercet** is a three-line stanza, a **Quatrain** is a four-line stanza, a **Cinquain** is a five-line stanza and a **Sestet** is a six-line stanza.

**Meter** = the pattern of stressed syllables (long-sounding) and unstressed syllables (short-sounding) in poetry.

A more complete glossary can be found [here](#).