



SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE

THEME: LITERATURE

**TOPIC: POETRY; ORAL AND
WRITTEN POETRY**



LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. Read a selection of poems (oral and written poetry)
2. Explain the meaning of selected poems
3. Identify the language of Poetry
4. Write simple poems on your own.



POETRY


Poetry according to dictionary.com is the act of rhythmical composition written or spoken, for exciting pleasures by beautiful, imaginative or elevated.

Poetry is a type of literature based on the interplay of words, rhyme and meter.



FACTS ABOUT POETRY

1. Poetry words are strung together to form sounds, images and idea that might be too complex to describe.
2. Poetry is a genre of literature that evolves a concentrated imaginative awareness of experience or a specific emotional response.
3. Poetry is expressed through language chosen and arranged for it's meaning, sound and rhythm.

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4. Language in Poetry is language aesthetic with the use of rhythm, figures of speech, alliteration, assonance, and so on.
 5. Poetry is a type of literature or artistic writing that attempt to stir readers' imagination or emotion.
 6. Poems are arranged in lines and stanzas.
 7. One who writes poem is called a poet.




FORMS OF POETRY

1. Oral Poetry
2. Written Poetry



ORAL POETRY

Oral Poetry is a form of Poetry is composed and transmitted without the aid of writing. This type of poem is practiced with the use of mouth. The poet recite the poem from memory. Oral Poetry is always performed life.

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Oral Poetry refers to the verbal expression of feelings, ideas and thoughts using words arranged in their best possible order.


Examples of oral poems are nursery rhymes, love songs, eulogises and so on.



FEATURES

1. It is delivered by word of mouth.
2. Linguistic aspect such as tone and pitch are crucial in oral Poetry in varying the meaning and the mood.
3. There is often solo and chorus pattern especially is sung poetry
4. It is accompanied with movement and dance.

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5. The Performer dresses in costume in some sung poetry.
 6. Musical instrument such as drums, horns can accompany the performance of Poetry.
 7. Some patterns of sounds are repeated (rhythm) and it can be slow or fast (beat), moderate, monotonous or disjointed.



8. **VOLUME** : This refers to whether the song/poetry should loud or soft. A lullaby should be sung softly while war poems are sung loudly.

Examples of Oral Poems

Owusu from A Selection of African Poetry by K.E Senanu and T.Vincent

OWUSU

Valiant OWUSU

The stranger on who the citizen of the town depends,
Father, allow my children and me to depend on you,
So that we may all of us get something to eat,
Father on whom I wholly depend.

(Extracted from A Selection of African Poetry by K.E Senanu and
T. Vincent in New Concept English for Junior Secondary Schools

TYPES OF POETRY


1. EPIC

An Epic is a long and narrative poem that normally tells a story about a hero or an adventure that forms a cultural history of a society. Epic can be presented as oral or written stories. Example "The Illiad" - Idanre by Woke Soyinka.

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2. BALLAD

Ballad also tell a story, like epic poems do, however, balled poetry is often based on legend or a folktale. It is a slow, love song or poem written to express the heroic past of a village, community or great men.

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The story is chanted in song form by the story teller
followed by the audience in singing the refrain for example
"The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" by Samuel Tylor
Coleridge

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3. LYRICS

This is usually a short, simple poem that once was meant to be sung. It expresses a strong personal emotion. Example "Streamside Exchange" by J.P Clark.

4. SONNET

This is a poem of 14 lines written in iambic pentameter.

The first eight lines are called an octave while the last six lines are called a sextet. Example William Shakespeare's Sonnet.

5. DIRGE/ELEGY

This is a song that meditate on death. It celebrate in a mournful way the death of an individual or relation. An example is Kofi Awoooer " Song of Sorrow"

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6. **NARRATIVE POETRY**

This is similar to epic, a narrative poem tells a story. Rime of the Ancient Mariner.

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7. WRITTEN POETRY

This is the expression of emotion in written forms. Written Poetry is often more elaborate. The reader uses the imagination to interpret the tone and meaning. They have metrical structures, the meter may not be instrumental.



LANGUAGE OF POETRY

Poetry uses condensed and beautified language that is rich with imagery. Techniques such as simile, metaphor and personification are often used more in poetry than in prose and drama.



The language of Poetry is concise. It is usually in lines and stanzas that are measured and arranged in a way that gives a rhythm. Some poetry use an irregular rhythm which is known as free verse.

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EVALUATION

1. What is the difference between a written poem and an oral poem?
2. Write any poem of your choice.

**THANK YOU
FOR WATCHING!!!**