

Romeo and Juliet: LESSON 5

Morning everyone!

This week we are going to work towards writing a poem using **MORERAPS** (more on this later!)

You'll learn about the different 'tools' other poets use, think about line breaks and maybe include a rhyming couplet in your poem just like Shakespeare!

Monday 4th May

LI: Know what a poem is

Do all poems have to rhyme or have rhythm?

Do you know of any poems or poets?

Do you have any you like or dislike?

The poet Michael Rosen defines poetry as “**saying interesting things in a small space**”.

What is your definition?

James Carter sets his poems out as calligrams; poems that show their main theme or meaning in their shape (see below). What do you think of the poems **What to say if you meet a ghost** or **Viking O'clock**? Is this what poetry can and should be?

EARTHLING! DO YOU KNOW WHAT **YOU** ARE?

A
mammal
with a massive
brain. A mega
mass of DNA.
A biped
and
a
hominid.
!! A primate and a !!
!! vertebrate. A warm- !!
!! blooded omnivore with !!
!! carbon molecules galore. And !!
!! oh yeah, did you know - you are !!
!! mostly H₂O? A star-deriving, time !!
!! surviving, earth-evolving, space !!
!! - exploring, future-seeking, !!
!! ever-thinking, speaking, !!
!!!! breeding, breathing, !!!!
H U M A N
B E I N G ?
!! !!
!! !!
!! !!
!! !!
!! !!
!! !!
!! !!
!!!!!!

James Carter

(from SPACED OUT anthology – space poems chosen by Brian Moses & James Carter – Bloomsbury May 2019)

THE **MOON** SPEAKS

James Carter's shape poems

**What
Can You
Do With A
Football
?**

Well...

You can
kick it you can catch
it you can bounce it – all
around. You can grab it you can
pat it you can roll it – on the ground.
You can throw it you can head it you
can hit it – with a bat. You can biff it
you can boot it you can spin it you
can shoot it you can drop it
you can stop it – just
like that!

I, the moon,
would like it known - I
never follow people home. I
simply do not have the time. And
neither do I ever shine. For what you
often see at night is me reflecting solar
light. And I'm not cheese! No, none of
these: no mozzarellas, cheddars, bries, all
you'll find here - if you please - are my
dusty, empty seas. And cows do not
jump over me. Now that is simply
lunacy! You used to come and
visit me. Oh do return,
I'm lonely, see.

James Carter

Viking O'Clock

What to Say if You Meet a Ghost ...

```

Aaa
aaaaaaa
aaaaaaa
aaaaaaa
aaaaa
aaa
aaa
aaaaaaa
aaaaaaaaaaaaa
aaaaaaaaaaaaa
aaaaaaaaaaaaa
aaaaaaaaaaaaa
aaaaaaaaaaaaa
aaaaaaaaaaaaa
aaaaaaaaaaaaa
aaaaaaa
aaaaaaa
hhhh
hhh
hhh
hh
hh
h
!
!
!

```

```

vvvvvvvvvvvv
vvvvvvvvvvvvvv
vvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvv
@          vvvv          @
@      +++      vvvv      +++      @
@      W      vvvv      W      @
@          vvvv          @
@          V          @
@      We were . . .      @
@          @          @
@@@
Dark Agers,
land invaders, craft
traders, ocean gravers, myth-
!! makers, longboat sailors, wave !!
!! riders, fierce fighters, strong !!
!! survivors, kenning scribes, !!
!! Nordic dwellers, beardy !!
!! fellas. At thieving bling !!
!! we were the best, we !!
!!! were THE VIKINGS! !!!
Had you
guessed?
???
?? ??
?? ??
?? ??
?? ??
????      ????

```

Now read John Hegley's poem **What a Poem's Not** below.

John worked through the alphabet and used each letter to describe what he thinks a poem is not. Do you agree with his definition?

Task 1: What about what a poem is? Can you make up a similar style list, using the alphabet, to describe what you think a poem is now?

What a poem is

A poem is an **A**.....

but/ and...

A poem is a **B**...

but/ and...

What a poem's not (by John Hegley)

A poem is not an Ant
but it can be quite short.
A poem is not a Banana
but there may be something under its skin.
A poem is not a Coat
but it may have some warmth in it.
A poem is not a Dog
but it might be quite a friend.
A poem is not an Endless pair of trousers
but it can be quite long.
A poem is not a Football shaped like a cucumber.
A poem is not a Great number of things.
A poem is not a Hedgehog
but it might be hard to get hold of.
A poem is not an Igloo
but it can feel like home.
A poem is not a Jumble sale,
but it might contain some rubbish.
A poem is not a Kite
but it might enjoy the wind.
A poem is not a Lightbulb
but you can change it if you want to.
A poem is not a Monkey
but can be quite human.
A poem is not a Nut
but you can give it to a monkey.

A poem is not an Opera score or an open score
but it can be revealing.
A poem is not a Prison
and it shouldn't feel like one either.
A poem is not a Question...
actually it is sometimes.
A poem is not a Radio
but you may have to tune into it.
A poem is not a Slot machine
but you may have to put something into it.
A poem is not a Toothbrush
So don't clean your teeth with it.
A poem is not an Umbrella
but it can give you protection.
A poem is not a Verruca
and I'm glad.
A poem is not a Wig
but maybe it will change you.
A poem is not an X-ray:
make no bones about it.
A poem is not a Year-old bag of vegetables
but it can smell quite strongly.
A poem is not a Zylophone
and it can spell words wrongly.

Tuesday 5th May

What is a Couplet?

A couplet is a pair of lines in a poem which have both the same rhythm (meter) and that rhyme. The lines can be independent sentences (closed form) or can run on from each other (open form).

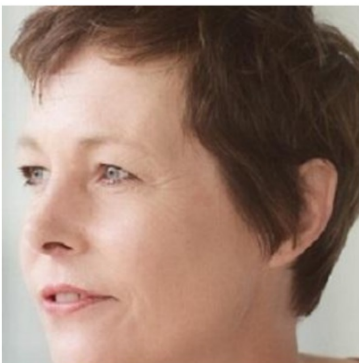
This example from by Rachel Rooney shows the open form and consists of 2 rhyming lines with 10 beats each:

**A queen in a palace, slumped on a throne,
Surrounded by servants but all alone.**

Task: Read or watch these poems being performed. They are written in rhyming couplets:

Seeker

Poem from A Kid in My Class by Rachel Rooney



Rachel Rooney

Eyes as wide as continents brim with the water between.

Seeks a different future. Looks back on what has been.

Mouth seeks another language. Shapes a different air.

Unfamiliar classroom words. The other, whispered prayer.

Heart seeks home. One it left and one it took along.

Echoes in the distance. Skips to a playground song.

Watch it performed here: <https://vimeo.com/331680711>

The Lost Lost-Property Office

'On buses and trains you wouldn't believe
The crazy things that passengers leave:

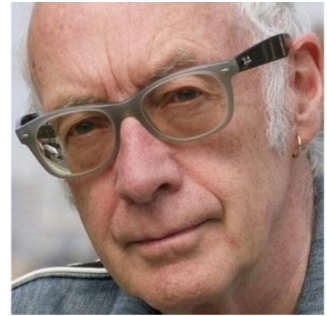
A pair of crutches, I kid you not,
Hot-waterbottle, full but no longer hot

A bouncy castle deflating slowly
Glove discarded by a one-armed goalie

Pink chiffon tutu for a large ballerina
A can of worms and a concertina

A ventriloquist's dummy with nothing to say
An Egyptian mummy all dusty and grey

A scaffolder asleep in a Spider-Man suit
the tangled remains of a failed parachute



Roger McGough

A Viking helmet and a broken lance
A pair of elephant's underpants

A file with Top Secret stamped in red
(Inside a card, *April Fool* it said)

An Alpine horn and a didgeridoo
A signed photo of Winnie-the-Pooh

A shot-putter's shot and a pole vaulter's pole
Two Yorkshire puddings and a toad-in-the-hole

Headphones and hearing aids by the score
A mountain of mobiles and a lavatory door.

A bucket of toenails and a wooden plank
Two air-to-air missiles and a Russian tank

Lost any of these? Bad news I'm afraid,
The Lost-Property Office has been mislaid.'

Watch it performed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fd7E0pMUkoM>

Poetry Pie

Poem from Poetry Pie by Roger McGough
Newly baked and fresh today
Eat while hot or take away.

Poetry Pie, Poetry Pie
Straight from the oven our Poetry Pie.
Poetry Pie, Poetry Pie
We're all lovin' our Poetry Pie.

Rhymes and rhythms, raps and riddles.
No nonny-noes or hey-diddle-diddles.

Poetry Pie, Poetry Pie
We can't get enough our Poetry Pie.
Poetry Pie, Poetry Pie
Lovin the stuff in our Poetry Pie.

Watch it performed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bfov5O5N6bc>

Poems that tickle and trip off the tongue.
Poems to be whispered, shouted and sung.
Poems that chuckle and poems that bite.
Poems that moan and go bump in the night.
Poems that meow and bark and roar.
Look out! Here comes a dinosaur...

Poetry Pie, Poetry Pie
There's nothing as nice as Poetry Pie
Poetry Pie, Poetry Pie
Have a slice of our Poetry Pie

Poems that stand apart from the crowd.
Poems that will make you laugh out loud.
Poems that go 'Wheee!' and jump off the shelf.
Poems that you'll want to keep to yourself.
Poems that you'll want to share with a friend.
Poems that you wish would never end.

Poetry Pie, Poetry Pie
Sing a song of Poetry Pie.
Poetry Pie, Poetry Pie
Ning Nang Nong, it's Poetry Pie.

Performing a poem

What did you think of the videos of Rachel Rooney and Roger McGough performing their work? What did you notice about the performance? What actions or sounds were used? Was there music? What about props, costume, setting?

Task: Give each poet 'two stars and a wish'. (two things that were successful about their performance and one thing that could have made it even better).

If you couldn't watch them being performed, '**Tell me**' about each poem. Write down **likes, dislikes, puzzles** and anything they remind you of/ **connections** you made.

Here's a famous *couplet* from *Romeo and Juliet*:
***Good night! Good night! Parting is such sweet sorrow
That I shall say good night till it be morrow.***

The couplet above comes from Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, which is a play, not a poem. But Shakespeare often used rhyming couplets at the end of scenes to signal the ending.

Wednesday 6th May

Poetry by Joseph Coelho

Task: Watch these videos of the poet **Joseph Coelho** discussing an approach to writing poetry.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S_txb_C2PIU

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/watch/bp-joseph-coelho-poetry>

If you didn't get to watch the videos, Joseph uses the acronym **MORERAPS**:

Metaphor, **O**nomatopoeia, **R**hyme, **E**motion,
Repetition, **A**lliteration, **P**ersonification, **S**imile

Joe invented MORERAPS to help him remember all the different poetic tools we can use when dreaming up poems. Each letter of MORERAPS stands for a poetic device.

M – Metaphor: When we describe a thing by saying it is something else – *The sun is an oven.*

O – Onomatopoeia: Words that are sounds – *Bang! Crash! Meow. Moo. Bark. Splish. Splash.*

R – Rhyme: This one is easy, we all know about rhyme – *The cat sat on the mat.*

E – Emotion: Using words in your poem that refer to an emotion – *The rain makes me feel sad.*

R – Repetition: Repeating a word or a sentence within a poem – *I love the sun, I love the sun, I love the sun.*

A – Alliteration: A sentence that includes several words that start with the same letter – *Shine, smiling sun.*

P – Personification: Describing a thing as if it were a person – *The sun dances its rays in the blue sky.*

S – Simile: Using 'as' or 'like' to compare – *The sun is like my beating heart.*

Task: Look at the steps Joseph used to write a poem about the sun. Tomorrow you will have a go at writing your own **MORERAPS poem.**

Step 1 – Write out the MORERAPS down the left-hand side of the page.

**M
O
R
E
R
A
P
S**

Step 2 – Add in each poetic device

Metaphor

Onomatopoeia

Rhyme

Emotion

Repetition

Alliteration

Personification

Simile

Step 3 – Decide what the subject of your poem will be about. It could be rain, or clouds, your favourite computer game or your best friend. Whatever you like.

Step 4 – Work your way down the list, writing a sentence that uses each one of the poetic devices. Here's Joseph beginning his MORERAPS poem about the sun.

Metaphor - The sun is a fiery eye in the blue sky

Onomatopoeia - It sizzles in the blue sky

Rhyme - The sun is always fun.

Emotion - It dries my tears when I cry.

Repetition - I love the sun, I love the sun, I love the sun.

Alliteration - Sweet, smiling sun.

Personification - The sun dances its rays in the blue sky

Step 5 – Once your poem is written why not share it, try reading it aloud to friends or family or you could try writing the poem out without the MORERAPS.

The sun is a fiery eye in the blue sky.

It sizzles in the blue sky.

The sun is always fun.

It dries my tears when I cry.

I love the sun, I love the sun, I love the sun.

Sweet, smiling sun.

The sun dances its rays in the blue sky

The is like my beating heart.

Step 6 – You could even edit the poem, try changing the order of the lines, removing lines or making up entirely new lines, like this –

The Sun

The sun is a flaming beach ball of fun.

It sizzles in the blue sky.

Sweet, smiling sun.

It dries my tears when I cry.

The sun is like my beating heart.

It's a fiery eye in the blue sky.

I love the sun, I love the sun, I love the sun.

It comforts me when I cry.

Here is Joseph's MORERAPS poem about Freedom.

METAPHOR

Saying one thing is another thing to show what it is like.

Freedom is an open window.

ONOMATOPOEIA

A word that sound like what it means.

Freedom tweets.

RHYME

A word that has the same sound as another.

Freedom is a light
Shining ever so bright.

EMOTION

Giving the poem a mood or feeling.

Freedom fill the world with joy.

REPETITION

Repeating a line or a word to show that it is important.

Free, free I feel free.

ALLITERATION

Using several words in a row beginning with the same letter.

The weight of the world wafted away as freedom waded in.

PERSONIFICATION

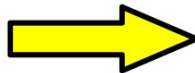
Making an inanimate object seem like a person.

Freedom shimmies and flows across the dancefloor of the world.

SIMILE

Comparison of one thing with another using like or as.

Freedom is like a deep breath.



Thursday 7th May

L.I. Write a MORERAPS poem

Task 1: Have a go at writing a MORERAPS poem-use Joseph Coelho's steps from yesterday to help you.

You can decide what the subject of your poem will be about. It could be rain, or clouds, your favourite computer game or your best friend. Whatever you like.

Friday: Bank holiday

Catch-up if you haven't finished the Monday to Thursday tasks.

Maybe you could publish your poem too and illustrate it if you have any spare time? Perform it to your family-I bet they'll be impressed! Could you learn one of the example poems from this week off by heart too? Have some fun!

