

Poetry With Meter

Many poems in English have a strong pattern of loud and soft sounds when they are read aloud. This is called the meter of the poem. The most common meter is a soft sound followed by a louder sound. Remember that this is only a slight difference in the syllables when they are pronounced in a natural manner. A group of syllables that belongs together is called a foot. The length of a line is defined by listing the number of feet, usually the syllables divided by two. For example, a line of eight syllables has four feet while a line of ten syllables has five feet.

I. Vocabulary: Use your notes or a dictionary to define these words.

1. Meter
2. Syllable
3. Word
4. Pronunciation
5. Stanza
6. Line
7. Foot
8. Iambic Foot
9. Trochaic Foot

II. Syllables: Copy these words or phrases and break them into syllables.

10. elemental
11. torrent
12. darkness
13. gusty
14. inn yard
15. wicket
16. discussion

17. velvety

18. perfume

19. moonlight

20. her musket

21. They had tied her up to attention, with many a sniggering jest.

22. The highwayman came riding, riding

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