



Put it in a poem

Writing, reading and appreciating poetry

"FOR me, poetry is the hand, hammer, and chisel that strikes a crack sure enough to let a genuine sound emerge, one that's felt more than it's understood." – Cat Empire lead singer Felix Riebl

Poetry is?

You can probably identify a poem but try explaining what poetry is. Finding an exact definition of poetry is tricky.

Poetry is an ancient literary

FUN FACT

The word poetry is of Greek origin – from "poieo" meaning "I create".

form that has gone through numerous changes over time making it nearly impossible to define.

It's a mode of expression, an art form, a particular kind of literature that is broken up into lines or verses. It conveys emotion or ideas.

It uses imagery, word association, and musical qualities.

It is a condensed or compressed form of writing and it uses different devices for effect.

Poetry is all this and more but even without a perfect definition of what it is we can enjoy and recognise poems.

What is poetry to you? Finish this sentence: Poetry is..... Go to NIE online and post your comment.

Profile of an Australian poet

BANJO Paterson (1864–1941)

Last month the 150th anniversary of the birth of one of Australia's most widely recognised poets was celebrated. Born February 17, 1864, in New South Wales, Andrew Barton 'Banjo' Paterson became Australia's most quoted poet with famous ballads such as Clancy of the Overflow, The Geebung Polo Club and The Man From Snowy River. He also penned Waltzing Matilda which has become Australia's best-known folk song. Many of his poems were published in newspapers.

A solicitor, journalist, war correspondent and soldier, Banjo was better known as a balladeer who helped create a sense of the Australian character

after years observing and writing about bushmen, pioneers, workers and soldiers.

Along with his works, Paterson's legacy lives on with his likeness printed on the \$10 note.

Mulga Bill's Bicycle by A.B. "Banjo" Paterson (excerpt)

"Twas Mulga Bill, from Eaglehawk, that caught the cycling craze;

He turned away the good old horse that served him many days;

He dressed himself in cycling clothes, resplendent to be seen;

He hurried off to town and bought a shining new machine;

And as he wheeled it through the door, with air of lordly pride,

The grinning shop assistant said, "Excuse me, can you ride?"

Types of poetry

POETS use a variety of devices and techniques when writing a poem. The way they structure and select words, the use of assonance, rhythms and repetitions, the emotive qualities of the words, their musical value, spacing and even special relationship to the page

all combine to determine the form a poem takes.

Acrostic poem

An acrostic poem is a type of poetry where the first, last or other letters in a line spell out a particular word or phrase.

The most common and simple form of an acrostic poem is where the first

letters of each line spell out the word or phrase.

A less common and slightly more difficult type of an acrostic poem is where the last or middle letter of each line spells out the word or phrase.

Here is an example of an acrostic poem using the word ACROSTIC in the middle:

Fancy writing A poem? PiCk a topic of your choice

You can wRite about anything you like

Let yOur imagination run wild

ChooSe the right words

Write your ThOughts down

Ideas are Ilmitless

Be CReative and have lots of fun.

TOMORROW:
Put it in a poem
Part 2

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