

Limericks



The word derives from the Irish town of Limerick and the content of many limericks is often of a humorous nature. Since limericks were short and relatively easy to compose, working class people in British pubs and taverns of the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventh centuries were the poets. The poets who created these limericks were therefore often drunkards!

Limericks - The form

Limericks consist of five lines.

Lines 1, 2, and 5 of Limericks have **seven to ten syllables** and rhyme with one another.

Lines 3 and 4 of Limericks have **five to seven syllables** and also rhyme with each other.

Let's try and make our own limerick!

On the lines below, write 5 places you have lived or visited and then find words that rhyme with the place. (Places can be cities, states, countries, street names, etc.)

Example:

Beijing--- bring, fling, king, Ming, opening, ring, sing, sling, sting, thing ...

_____ --- _____

_____ --- _____

_____ --- _____

_____ --- _____

_____ --- _____

Choose two of the words that you found the most words that rhyme with it and write your own limerick. The following limerick is from the example above:

Example:

There once was a man from Beijing .
All his life he hoped to be King .
So he put on a crown,
Which quickly fell down.
That small silly man from Beijing .

Using both of the templates, write limericks by filling in the blanks with your own rhyming words. Use past tense.

Template - A:

There once was a _____ from _____.
All the while s/he hoped _____.
So s/he _____.
And _____.
That _____ from _____.

Template - B:

I once met a _____ from _____.
Every day s/he _____.
But whenever s/he _____.
The _____.
That strange _____ from _____.

Try your own?:
