

Understanding the poem



Answer these further questions about the poem *The Listeners*.

Find the meanings of the old-fashioned words in the poem. Then write down why you think the poet chose these words.

Read the poem again, looking at the lines and listening for the rhymes. How would you describe the rhyming pattern?

Count the syllables in the first eight lines – can you find a rhythmic pattern? What is it?

Remember: A syllable is a word or part of a word that is one beat long.

Writing practice

Choose a section from the poem and write it here.

Remember: Join your letters carefully and space your words evenly.

Begin new lines in the same places as in the printed poem.


