

Limericks

Limericks are often five line poems written in light and witty style. It usually has a rhyming structure of AABBA and is often a humorous or satirical poem.

The pattern of the limerick is A-B-B-A-A, with lines 2, 3 and 5 rhyming and lines 1 and 4 forming

It is generally believed that the Limerick was invented by the writer Edward Lear. Although some claim it was invented earlier, including Christopher Lillier, an Irish poet, in the 1700s.

Some of Edward Lear's limericks...

I have never in London seen
That the streets themselves support
But occasionally large tubs
Are placed out for sale
While the whole old gentleman
Wonders why he should be so pale

I have never in London seen
What you call a "puff" or "blow"
I wonder why it is
That such a person
Should be so much in the wind
As to be so much in the wind

I have never in London seen
What you call a "puff" or "blow"
I wonder why it is
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For the reason that, in the limerick, the poet
Takes an advantage of the fact
That the limerick is the most popular of all the forms of poetry.

Some of the limericks are...

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