

LO: To know how to write a list poem.



A list poem...

- LISTS anything the writer wants to talk about (people, places, feelings, ideas)
- Does NOT have to follow a rhyming pattern - it's up to you!
- USUALLY tells the reader what it is about in the title
- USUALLY involves some repetition

Follow this link to read an example by Kathy Henderson, who lists ALL the things she read today. If you scroll to the bottom of the page, you can listen to her performing the poem as a video...

<https://clpe.org.uk/poetryline/poems/today-i-read-bus-stop>

I have attached this poem, along with three other examples to your homework.

Read these poems now before moving onto my next speech bubble. While you are reading them, **think about what the writer has chosen to list and why.**

You are going to write a poem called '**The View From My Window**'. This could be a window in your bedroom, your bathroom, your kitchen, your living room, or even Mr Fowler's classroom! It should be a **descriptive list** of all the things you can see. It should list all the things that are in plain sight, as well as the **little things we never usually notice**.



To get you started...

1. Find a comfortable place near your window of choice
2. Spend 15 minutes or more writing everything you see
3. Add any other things to your list that you can remember you've seen over the past few days (for example, my neighbour came out of his house the other night to play a trumpet in celebration for all our doctors and nurses!)

Now you have all your ideas, you can start writing your poem. It should include...

- A **title**
- **Lines that list** the different things you see
- **Punctuation** that shows your reader where to **pause**
- A variety of **poetic devices** (see next page for ideas)

e.g.
Today I saw a sun set,
Shadows dancing down the street,
The flicker of a street light,
And a dog I'd like to meet.

Challenge:

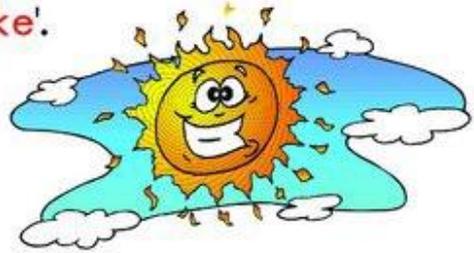
Think about the way you want your reader to FEEL about your list. Be careful to make sure all your language choices help to create this feeling.



Poetic Devices

Simile

Compares two things using 'as' or 'like'.
Eg. The sun blazed **like an angry fire**.



Metaphor

Compares, **without using like or as**.
Eg. The road **was a ribbon** of moonlight.

Personification

Makes something **which is not alive sound like it is**.
Eg. The flowers **danced** in the breeze.

Onomatopoeia

Words which **sound like the noise they describe**.
Eg. pop, buzz, splash.

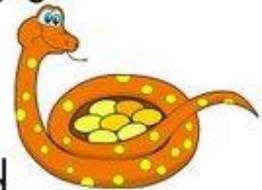


Alliteration

Repetition of the same **consonant sound(s)**.
Eg. **S**lowly the **s**ly snake **s**lithered over the **s**limy grass.

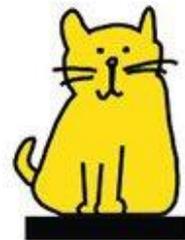
Assonance

Repetition of the same **vowel sound(s)**.
Eg. The **o**mbombs dropped **o**ftly **o**nto the **o** hot sand.



Rhyme

When words have the **same sound**.
Eg. **cat** and **hat**, **heather** and **leather**



Rhythm

The sound made by the **pattern** of stressed and unstressed syllables in each line.
Eg. de dum, de dum, de dum.

