The Windows Project

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PDF notes

The pentameter template on the following page can be filled in using Adobe reader. It can be saved and printed. It can be used over and over again. However, if you want to preserve your work for posterity it is best to retype it into a text editor or word processing program.

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Windows Workshops

Pentameter

Aboard the Pentameter

The Pentameter has been a common form in English verse for over a thousand years. The worksheet shows the simple pattern and a list of words to help build a poem about the sea.

To make the poem you fill in the boxes - one beat to a box. The boxes are in groups (called "feet") of two beats, giving a TUM-tum or tum-TUM rhythm. This is the rhythm of oars, of waves.

You can choose up to twelve words from the list (all the words have one beat or syllable) to help you start, and then add words of your own to build sentences or short phrases to make a description or story. You should try some out in spare space first, hearing how they sound when you say them to the rhythm and counting up the beats to check that they fit into the pattern.

REMEMBER - you should only choose twelve words from the list to put into the poem, all the others should be your own, BUT you can use the listed words in any form - ROCK, for example, could be ROCKY, ROCKING, ROCKED - though these may need more than one beat/box.

ABOARD THE PENTAMETER

To make your sea-poem you fill in the boxes - one beat to a box. As you can see, the boxes are in groups (called feet) of two beats, giving a TUM-tum or tum-TUM rhythm, This is the rhythm of oars, of waves.

You can choose up to twelve words from the list (all the words have one beat) to help you start, and then add words of your own to build sentences or short phrases to make a description or story. You should try some out in the spare space first, hearing how they sound when you say them to the rhythm and counting up the beats to check that they fit into the pattern.

REMEMBER - you should only choose twelve words from the list to put into the poem, all the others should be your own, BUT you can use the listed words in any form - ROCK, for example, could be ROCKY, ROCKING, ROCKED - though these may need more than one beat/box.

WORD LIST

SURGE	SWIRL	CLOUD	HEAVE
LIGHT	ROCK	WAVES	SWISH
SWELL	SALT	RAIN	SKY
GULLS	GLARE	CRASH	ROAR
SHORE	WIND	SEA	RUSH
STORM	HOWL	BOOM	TIDE
SPRAY	DEEP	ROLL	GROAN
MIST	CREAK	SLIDE	DRIFT