

Rhyme Across Water

Notice how rhyme and stanza structure shape a poem.

5.T.T.4.a "Discuss and explain techniques used to present and design poetry, including rhyme and structure. (I)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the rhyming end words in each pair of lines. Number the stanzas 1, 2, and 3 to show how the poem is organized.

Harbor at Dawn

- ① Before the sun climbs over the bay, a fishing boat rocks near the pier. Gulls call out at the start of day, and silver waves tap, tap, tap, to hear. A sailor lifts a lantern bright. Its small gold circle holds the night. Ropes creak softly in the morning air. The quiet harbor waits with care.
- ② Then engines hum, and nets slide down. The boat moves slowly past the town. A seal pops up beside the rail. It follows the boat's foamy trail. The sailor waves, then checks the sky. Pink clouds are floating, soft and high. The shore grows smaller, blue and wide. The crew sails out with morning tide.
- ③ Far from the busy dock, the sunlight gleams. It scatters bright sparks across the narrow streams. The gulls grow quiet, one by one. The water flashes in the sun. At last, the boat becomes a dot. Still, home is not a place forgot. Behind it, windows shine like stars. Ahead, the blue sea stretches afar.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What are the two pairs of rhyming end words in the first four lines of the second stanza?

2 How is each stanza structured? Use the number of lines and the rhyme pattern in your answer.

3 Which words rhyme in lines 5 and 6 of the third stanza? How does this rhyme connect to the poem's topic?

4 How do the three stanzas organize the boat's journey?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write an eight-line poem about a trip, a weather event, or an outdoor place. Arrange your lines in four rhyming pairs, and use line breaks to make the pairs easy to notice.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle the rhyming end words in each pair of lines. Number the stanzas 1, 2, and 3 to show how the poem is organized. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What are the two pairs of rhyming end words in the first four lines of the second stanza?	down/town and rail/trail
2	How is each stanza structured? Use the number of lines and the rhyme pattern in your answer.	Each stanza has eight lines. The lines are arranged in four rhyming pairs, or couplets.
3	Which words rhyme in lines 5 and 6 of the third stanza? How does this rhyme connect to the poem's topic?	dot and forgot. The rhyme connects the tiny boat in the distance with the idea that the sailors still remember home.
4	How do the three stanzas organize the boat's journey?	The first stanza shows the harbor before leaving, the second shows the boat sailing away, and the third shows the boat far from the dock.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Rain taps gently on the street. Puddles splash beneath my feet. I wear boots that shine so red. Clouds drift slowly overhead. A sparrow shakes its silver wings. A drop of water softly sings. Soon the sky begins to glow. Home is warm, so there I go.

Accept accurate identifications of end rhymes, including stars/afar as a near rhyme. For Part 3, accept any eight-line poem with four clear rhyming pairs and purposeful line breaks.