

Name _____
Poetry _____

Date _____
Period _____

Ode

A lyric poem is a poem that has a musical quality like a song. It expresses a poet's personal thoughts and feelings in vivid, musical language. Lyric poems typically rhyme.

An ode is a lyric poem expressing adoration and/or love for something or someone. The poem usually has a distinct rhyme and meter. It should be at least ten lines in length.

Steps for Writing an Ode

1. Select a person, place, thing, or idea that you love. It could be something silly or serious, but you must feel strongly about it.
2. List words and phrases that describe unique qualities of the subject.
3. List words and phrases about why the subject is so wonderful and important to you.
4. Join some of your phrases into lines for your ode.
5. Once you have your phrases organized, try to play with the end of each line to create a pattern of rhyme. You might have to change a few words or rearrange some lines to do this. You may use the rhyming dictionary if necessary.
6. If you are ambitious, try to create meter by organizing the lines so that every line or every few lines has the same pattern of syllables.
7. Revise your lines following these steps:
 - take away any lines that are too similar
 - add more feeling to any meaningless lines
 - choose more vivid diction to describe your subject
 - eliminate any superfluous words or phrases
 - pick a good opening line
 - order the remaining lines into their best sequence
 - select a good closing line that clearly expresses your feelings about the subject