



Know Your Poetry – Short Forms

Comprehension Questions

View the clip and complete the comprehension questions and tasks below. Don't worry: none of them are about rabbits. You may need to refer to the transcript of the video to answer some questions.

Match-up

1. Match these poetry terms with their meanings.

stanza	___	a) group of lines in a poem
alexandroid	___	b) mental pictures created in the reader's mind
mora	___	c) repeated section of a poem
refrain	___	d) Japanese term for a single sound unit
haiku	___	e) twelve-line poem
imagery	___	f) Japanese poetic short form

Short answer

2. Give an example of a kigo (seasonal reference) from the clip.

3. Which two short forms inspired the creation of the cinquain?

4. When did Edward Lear live? *from* _____ *to* _____

5. For which short form of poetry is Edward Lear famous? _____

6. What is one possible point or message of 'There was an old man with a beard'?

7. List the birds that have built nests in the old man's beard.

8. Which line is used three times in Thomas Hardy's triolet about sadness?

Personal response

9. In your opinion, what is the best poem featured in the clip?





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Give three reasons for your answer. These can involve the use of certain techniques.

10. Which short form seems the most difficult to write? _____

Why? _____

11. Do you think silly, humorous poems can have as much value as serious poems? Explain your answer, giving specific reasons for your opinion. Make reference to poems from the clip or elsewhere.

12. It is quite common to see short form poems accompanied by simple illustrations. Find or draw an appropriate image to accompany one poem featured in the clip. The image should depict a theme or description from the poem.

