



LIMERICKS

Funny 5-Line Poems

A limerick is a 5-line poem. The 1st, 2nd and 5th line all rhyme with each other. And the 3rd and 4th line rhyme with each other.

Each line also has a specific number of syllables. The 1st, 2nd and 5th line all have between 8 to 9 syllables. And the 3rd and 4th line have between 5 to 6 syllables.

Example 1:

A green fly was caught in a net. This
innocent fly caused no threat. It
flapped it's left wing.
It flapped it's right wing.
If only it learned the alphabet.

Example 2:

There once was an artist from Greece.
Who sculpted a sand made masterpiece.
In came the high tide,
"My masterpiece!" he cried.
Away went his sand castle of peace.

STEP 1: BRAINSTORM IDEAS

Wondering what to write a limerick about? Limerick ideas can come from anywhere, at anytime. To help you out, here are some fun limerick ideas to inspire you. Try writing a limerick poem about any of the following ideas:

- A lazy house cat
- Clumsy old monkey
- Angry little goat
- A vegetarian zombie
- Sad young prince
- Big, grumpy bulldog
- A handsome zookeeper
- A boy named Jack
- Jazz singer from New York
- A whimsical fairy

STEP 2: HOW TO START A LIMERICK:

Now that you have a couple of funny ideas to help you, it's time to write your first line. The first line of a limerick is normally the easiest, as it either ends with a person's first name or the name of a city, town or country. Therefore when selecting the last word in your first sentence make sure you choose something simple, which is likely to have many words that rhyme with it.

For example:

There was once a quiet girl named Kate.

Step 3: Find words that rhyme with your first line:

Use a rhyming dictionary to find words that rhyme with the last word in your first sentence. Make a list of words that rhyme and select the ones that are most relevant for your limerick.

Using the example from step 2:

Late, Date, Mate, Rate, Great, Debate, State, Separate, Collaborate, Wait...

STEP 4: WRITE YOUR 2ND AND LAST LINE:

Make sure your last line is extremely funny or something that is out of the ordinary.

For example:

*There was once a quiet girl named Kate.
One day she came to school late.*

We then noticed the word "wait" would be the perfect word to include in the last sentence:

"Stop! You'll have to wait!"

STEP 5: WRITE LINES 3 AND 4:

You might need to change line 5, so it makes more sense:

For example:

*There was once a quiet girl named Kate.
One day she came to school late.
When her alarm went off
She jumped up and took off
Then her cat yelled, "Hey wait!"*

We changed the last sentence to make it sound more unusual and funny.

TEMPLATE 1:

There once was a _____ from _____

Who _____

TEMPLATE 2:

I once met a _____ from _____

Everday _____

But _____

TEMPLATE 3:
