

Example Text: Acrostic Poetry (Ages 7 - 11)

An acrostic poem uses the first letter of each line to spell out the poem's theme down the page. For example, it could be a person's name, an animal, a location or an event. This needs to be written down the page in capital letters. Then, each line of poetry begins with these letters. The lines don't have to rhyme. Take a look at the example and the features required.

1 Have the **theme** of the poem written down the page in capital letters.

Flames **f**licker in the bonfire, **e**ating the **f**uel

2 Use powerful **adjectives** to describe the theme. Think about the five senses - sight, sound, smell, taste and touch.

I watch the **g**littering sparks **w**hoosh up **l**ike **f**ireflies

3 Use figurative language techniques, such as **alliteration**, to paint a picture for the reader. Alliteration involves repeating the first sound in a string of words or words that are close together in a sentence.

Rockets **z**oom into the night

Everywhere, the **s**mell of **s**moke **s**wirling

Waiting for the next **v**ibrant explosion

Oohh... **A**hhh... **W**ow!

Roaring crowds of **e**xcited onlookers

Kaleidoscope of colours, **r**ainbow showers

Starry-eyed spectators smile with glee

4 Use figurative language techniques, such as **personification**, to paint a picture for the reader. Personification gives non-human things (like animals, plants or objects) human traits or characteristics.

5 Use figurative language techniques, such as **similes**, to paint a picture for the reader. A simile is a technique that compares one thing to another, using the words 'like', 'as', 'than' and 'as if'.

6 Use figurative language techniques, such as **metaphors**, to paint a picture for the reader. A metaphor is a comparison between two things, using the words 'is' or 'was'.

7 Use figurative language techniques, such as **onomatopoeia**, to paint a picture for the reader. Onomatopoeia uses sound words to help the reader imagine what they might be hearing.