

Example Text: Adjective Poetry (Ages 7 - 11)

An adjective poem uses **adjectives** (describing words) to describe each **noun** (thing). Adjectives give more information about a thing. For example, instead of just saying 'roads', the text says 'roaring roads'. Every line in the poem has at least one adjective describing a noun. Take a look at the example and the features required.

1 Focus the poem around a **theme** and give it a title that links to this. It could be an event, a location or a creature.

2 Describe what can be **seen**.

3 Describe what can be **heard**.

4 Describe what can be **felt** or **touched**.

5 Describe any **smells** or **tastes**.

6 Start each line with a **capital letter** - this is common in lots of types of poetry.

7 Use a **comma** at the end of each line. This shows where there is a pause. It separates the list of items your child is describing.

8 Use a **full stop** at the end of the stanza. This shows this section has come to an end.

The Drive

Roaring roads,
Talkative cars,
Honking horns,
A symphony of traffic.

This first stanza is describing the **sounds** of the drive.

Dazzling lamps,
Reflective cat's eyes,
Flashing lights,
Like a luminous rainbow.

This second stanza is describing the **sights** that can be seen during the drive.

Smoky fumes,
Petrol smells,
Chemical perfume,
Blanketing the road.

The third stanza is describing the **smells** experienced on the drive.

Shuddering vehicles,
Bumpy tracks,
Overgrown signs,
Pointing me home.

The final stanza has a few references to **feelings** and **textures**, as well as **sights**. It finishes off the poem by talking about 'home'.

Group lines together into **stanzas**. Each stanza should have the same amount of lines.

- 9 Your child could also try to theme each stanza; for example, perhaps each stanza could describe a different sense (sight, sound, smell, taste and touch).

Use figurative language techniques, such as **alliteration**, to paint a picture for the reader.

- 10 Alliteration involves repeating the first sound in a string of words or words that are close together in a sentence.

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.

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Use figurative language techniques, such as **similes**, to paint a picture for the reader.

- 12 A simile is a technique that compares one thing to another, using the words 'like', 'as', 'than' and 'as if'.

Use figurative language techniques, such as **metaphors**, to paint a picture for the reader.

- 13 A metaphor is a comparison between two things, using the words 'is' or 'was'.