POFTRY PREP



Even great writers need to brush up on the basics. Before you begin crafting your poetic masterpiece, review the terms below and match them to their meanings. Draw a straight line from each word to its corresponding definition, once you've identified the correct match.

Verse

Couplet

Rhyme

Synonym

Nom de plume

Bard

Muse

Ode

Anthology

A short poem that expresses personal feelings

A line of poetry; a stanza

A source of inspiration

A pen name; a fictitious name adopted by an author

Two lines of poetry that follow in order and form a unit

A collection of literary works

A word having the same or almost the same meaning as another word

Close similarity in the final sounds of two or more words or lines of poetry

A person who writes poetry



A terrific way to prepare for poetry and prevent writer's block (that's fancy for running out of good ideas) is to do some simple word play as a warm-up activity. Try these exercises the next time you get stuck and need inspiration. Select your favorite describing word and write down all the words that have the same meaning. Then think of all the words that rhyme with your first word (and its synonyms). Repeat with more words, and before you know it you'll be a proficient poet!

Source: Definitions adapted from Merriam-Webster's Word Central © 2007 by Merriam-Webster, Incorporated.

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