

**Limericks
Structure worksheet**

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<p>I went to the staffroom one day For a nice cup of tea during play But a troll had got in And was making a din Even though he had nothing to say.</p>	<p>There was a young man from Dealing Who caught the bus for Ealing. It said on the door Don't spit on the floor So he jumped up and spat on the ceiling</p>
<p>An artistic male cat called Greebo, To an evening class he decided to go. The teacher said, "That's not right Your page is all white!" Greebs said, "It is a polar bear in the snow."</p>	<p>There was a young lady from Ickenham Who went on a bus-trip to Twickenham. She drank too much beer, Which made her feel queer, So she took off her boots and was sick-in-'em.</p>
<p>There was an old person of Fratton Who would go to church with his hat on. 'If I wake up,' he said, 'With a hat on my head, I will know that it hasn't been sat on.'</p>	<p>There once was an old man from Esser, Whose knowledge grew lesser and lesser. It at last grew so small, He knew nothing at all, And now he's a college professor.</p>
<p>There was a young lady from Hyde, Who ate a green apple and died. While her lover lamented, The apple fermented, And made cyder inside her inside.</p>	<p>A mosquito was heard to complain, 'A chemist has poisoned my brain!' The cause of his sorrow was paradichloro- triphenyldichloroethane.</p>
<p>There once was a lass in the staffroom... who found a long and thin broom she waved it about with a scream and a shout and cleaned up the whole of her classroom..</p>	<p>I once had a blind date with Cilla. I took her to watch Aston Villa. She sang to the crowd And she sang very loud And that's why they threatened to kill 'er.</p>
<p>There was an old man from Milan, Whose limericks never would scan. When told this was so, He said, 'yes, I know. 'But I always try to get as many syllables into the last line as I possibly can.'</p>	<p>There was a young man from Dundee, Got stung on the leg with a wasp When asked if it hurt He said no not a bit It can do it again if it likes!</p>

From <http://www.teachingideas.co.uk/english/limerick.htm>

1- Read the texts above and answer the questions

- a) What sort of texts are limericks? Justify
- b) How are they composed? Is there a common specific structure?
- c) Focus on the content: what are the texts about? Justify
- d) Train to read the poems out loud using a metronome to find an appropriate rhythm/tempo (start around grade 80 then change to a faster or slower tempo) <http://www.metronomeonline.com/>
- e) Where do you think the beats of the metronome will fall? Circle the correct answers

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- on all syllables 2- on some syllables (it depends) 3- on all words 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4- on some specific words 5- between words (silences)
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- f) How many beats do you count for each line?