

Poetry Through the Forms Handout

Form I

Reading	Lines of Poetry used in reading lessons
Recitation	One poem memorized/ Exam: Poem recited for Father
Writing (1A)	Lines used for writing exercises/Exam: One or Two lines written from memory
French	French poetry used in Lesson/ Exam: French Poem possible for French Recitation

The Tyger, By William Blake

**Tyger Tyger, burning bright,
In the forests of the night;
What immortal hand or eye,
Could frame thy fearful symmetry?**

**In what distant deeps or skies.
Burnt the fire of thine eyes?
On what wings dare he aspire?
What the hand, dare seize the fire?**

**And what shoulder, & what art,
Could twist the sinews of thy heart?
And when thy heart began to beat,
What dread hand? & what dread feet?**

**What the hammer? what the chain,
In what furnace was thy brain?
What the anvil? what dread grasp,
Dare its deadly terrors clasp!**

**When the stars threw down their spears
And water'd heaven with their tears:
Did he smile his work to see?
Did he who made the Lamb make thee?**

**Tyger Tyger burning bright,
 In the forests of the night:
 What immortal hand or eye,
 Dare frame thy fearful symmetry?**

Form II

Reading	Lines of Poetry or Shakespeare used in reading lessons
Grammar	Parsing of Poetry lines in Grammar Exercises
Recitation	One poem memorized/ Exam: Poem recited for Father/ A Scene from Shakespeare
Writing	Shakespeare used for writing exercises/Exam: Lines written from memory
French	French poetry used in Lesson/ Exam: French Poem possible for French Recitation
Dictation	Can use lines of poetic verse taken from poetry used in Reading Exercises
Composition (2A)	Exam/ Students can answer Composition prompt with Narrative verse

From Sir Walter Scott’s “Lady of the Lake”

**The western waves of ebbing day
 Rolled o’er the glen their level way;
 Each purple peak, each flinty spire,
 Was bathed in floods of living fire.**

Form III

Reading	Lines of Poetry or Shakespeare used in reading lessons/ Exam: Father chooses poem or scene from Shakespeare
Grammar	Parsing of Poetry Lines in Exercises
Recitation	One poem memorized/ Exam: Poem recited for Father/ A Scene from Shakespeare
Writing	Shakespeare used for writing exercises/Exam: Lines written from memory
French	French poetry used in Lesson/ Exam: French Poem possible for French Recitation
Dictation	Can use lines of poetic verse taken from poetry used in Reading Exercises
Composition	Exam/ Students can answer Composition prompt with Narrative verse
Literature	Readings from Six Poets/ Exam: Responsive “account” of poets and poems from the term

Form IV

Reading	Lines of Poetry or Shakespeare used in reading lessons/ Exam: Father chooses poem or scene from Shakespeare
Grammar	Parsing of Poetry Lines in Exercises
Recitation	One poem memorized/ Exam: Poem recited for Father/ A Scene from Shakespeare
Writing	Shakespeare used for writing exercises/Exam: Lines written from memory
French	French poetry used in Lesson/ Exam: French Poem possible for French Recitation
Dictation	Can use lines of poetic verse taken from poetry used in Reading Exercises
Composition	Exam/ Students can answer Composition prompt with Narrative verse
Literature	Readings from at least six Selected Poets/ Exam: Responsive “account” of poets and poems from the term

A SPRING MORNING

**'Tis Spring; and now the birds with merry song
Sing with full-throated voice to the blue sky
On which small clouds float, soft as a dove's wing.
Against the blue the pale-green leaflet gleams.
The darker green of elder, further down,
Sets off the brilliance of the hawthorn-hedge.
Close to the ground, the purple violet peeps
From out its nest of overhanging leaves.**

Forms V/VI

Reading	Daily Poetry Reading/ Exam: Father chooses poem from the term
Composition	Occasional Verse writing which must scan/ Exam: Poetic verse that scans on a Teacher chosen subject
Literature	Readings from Poetry anthology, Learn 100 lines/ Exam: Write Essay on one of the poets of the term, quoting and giving substance about selections of the poet's works.
French	French poetry used in Lesson/ Exam: French Poem possible for French Recitation

Selection from Alexander Pope's "Essay on Man"

**Then say not man's imperfect, Heav'n in fault;
Say rather, man's as perfect as he ought:
His knowledge measur'd to his state and place,
His time a moment, and a point his space.
If to be perfect in a certain sphere,
What matter, soon or late, or here or there?
The blest today is as completely so,
As who began a thousand years ago.**

Student's lines in the style of Pope:

**From each proud kingdom and each petty state
The statesmen meet together to debate
Upon the happy time when wars shall cease
And joy shall reign, and universal peace.
No more shall day with radiance cruelly bright
Glare down upon the carnage of the fight.
No more shall night's dark cloak be rent aside
By flashing shells and searchlight's stealthy glide
No more shall weary watchers wait at home
With straining eyes for those that cannot come
The nations shall forget their strife and greed
The strong shall help the weak in time of need
May they succeed in every peaceful plan
If war can cease as long as man is man.**