

Name _____

Date _____

Ballads

Purpose

Ballads are narrative poems, intended to tell a story.

Structure

Ballads can have several verses. Each verse has four lines. Sometimes, verses may be repeated throughout the poem.

Rhythm

Ballads have a song-like rhythm, created by the number of beats it takes to say each line. Usually, the first and third lines in a verse contain four beats, while the second and fourth lines contain three beats.

Rhyming Pattern

Ballads usually follow an abcb rhyming pattern.

Example

Here is an example ballad about a visit to the park.

*I went for a walk to the park one day,
And what do you think I found?
A busy bee stuck up in a tree,
And a bee hive down on the ground!*

*I bravely walked up to that bee hive,
And what do you think I did?
I poked that hive and it came alive,
So I ran away and I hid!*



