

# Grade 7 English Language Arts

Week of January 25 – January 29

## Lesson 1: Haiku and Diamante

In this lesson you will learn about two popular types of structured poems: haiku and diamante. Structured poems are put together in a specific way. They may have a certain shape, like a diamante, or a specific number of syllables, like a haiku.

Have you ever noticed the beauty of a snowflake? The delicacy of a butterfly's wing? The flight of a kite in the wind? Haiku poems try to capture and express some of these special moments in a few short lines.

### **Haiku:**

- originated in Japan centuries ago
- are often about nature or the changing of the seasons
- are three lines long
- have five syllables in the first and third lines
- have seven syllables in the second line
- do not rhyme

### **Example**

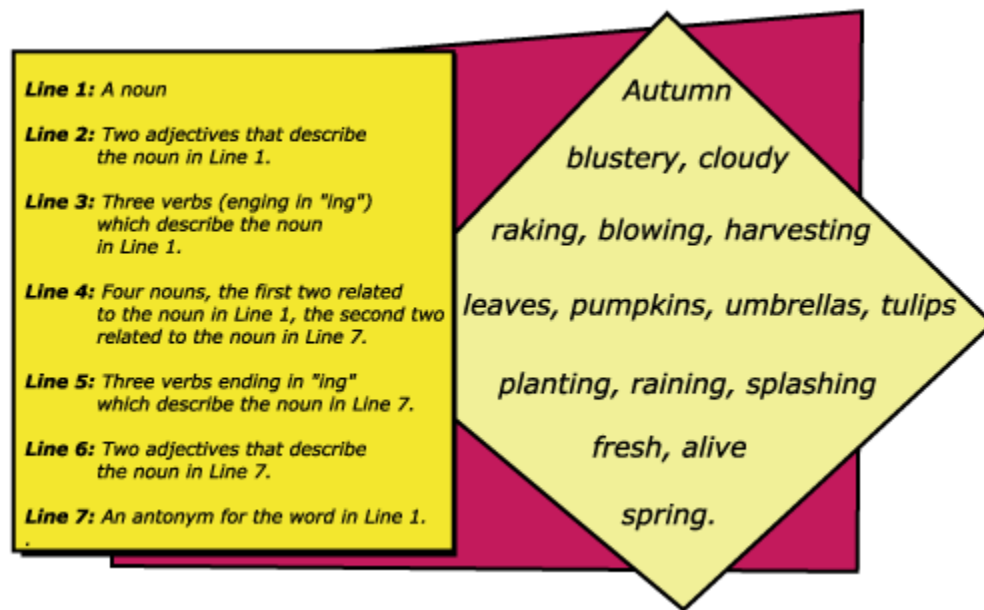
Snow, softly, slowly,	5 syllables
settles at dusk in a dance	7 syllables
Of white butterflies	5 syllables

-Oeharu

Flapping into fog	5 syllables
an angry crow cries hoarsely	7 syllables
for spring to begin.	5 syllables

-Gyodai

Another type of structured poem is the **diamante** (die-a-mon-tay). Diamante poems are easy to recognize because they are written in the shape of a diamond.



As you can see in this example, each line has to have a certain number of words. These words also have to be of a certain type.

Now that you know two structured types of poems and the rules for writing them, it's time to create some examples of your own.

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## Haiku and Diamante

You can choose to write a Haiku or a Diamante poem. Be sure to follow the rules of the chosen form (number of lines, number of syllables, theme, etc.) Use your inspiration list in your first entry to get an idea.