

# HAIKU

A haiku is an unrhymed Japanese poem of three lines containing five, seven, and five syllables, respectively. It is usually light and delicate in feeling and is concerned with something lovely in nature, especially the season of the year. Sometimes, there is a direct contrast within the verse.

Haiku was once part of ancient Japanese courtship rituals. A man would send a haiku to the woman he loved. If she liked the poem, she would write a tanka in response.

## Structure:

- line 1 — five syllables
- line 2 — seven syllables
- line 3 — five syllables

## Example:

Loud, crashing thunder  
And then the rain pouring down  
The rainbow appears

## On your own:

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