How to write a **limerick** poem

A limerick is a silly poem with five lines. Lines one, two and five rhyme with each other and lines three and four rhyme for an "AABBA" rhyme scheme. The poem is named after the city of Limerick in Ireland.

A limerick has to have a pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables.

U S U U S U U S

U S U U S U U S

U S U U S

U S U U S

U S U U S U U S

Limericks often start with the line "There once was a..." or "There was a..."

Examples:

There was a young boy from Caboo,

Who had trouble tying his shoe.

He said to his ox,

"I'll walk in my socks."

Now all his friends do that, too!

There was an old man from Peru

Who dreamed he was eating his shoe

He awoke in the night

With a terrible fright

To discover it was totally true.

There once was a man on the run

Who lost his mind right in the sun

He ran down the street

No brains lead his feet

And never had so much fun

Value your true and closest friends

When they are down help them to mend

Their trust do not betray

Their help do not delay

Stick with them to the very end

There was an Old Lady of France,

Who taught little Ducklings to dance;

When she said, "Tick-a-tack!"

They had only said, "Quack!"

Which grieved that Old Lady of France.

Allen Steble