

HOW TO HAIKU

A haiku is a tiny poem with a huge impact. This traditional Japanese poetic form tends to focus on nature, animals, seasons, colors, and contrasts. Although haiku can have a variety of structures, the most-common format of the three-line poem doesn't rhyme and follows this pattern:

An old silent pond... ←———— First line = 5 syllables (or beats)

A frog jumps into the pond, ←—— Second line = 7 syllables (or beats)

splash! Silence again. ←———— Third line = 5 syllables (or beats)

- Basho Matsuo

EXAMPLES

While the smoothest stones
Try to skip and hop across,
The pond claims them all.

Flowers withering
beneath the weight of the sun.
Yet the weeds stand proud.

This is a haiku.
You could write a better one -
Go ahead and try.

1

_____ 5

_____ 7

_____ 5



2



_____ 5

_____ 7

_____ 5

3

_____ 5

_____ 7

_____ 5

