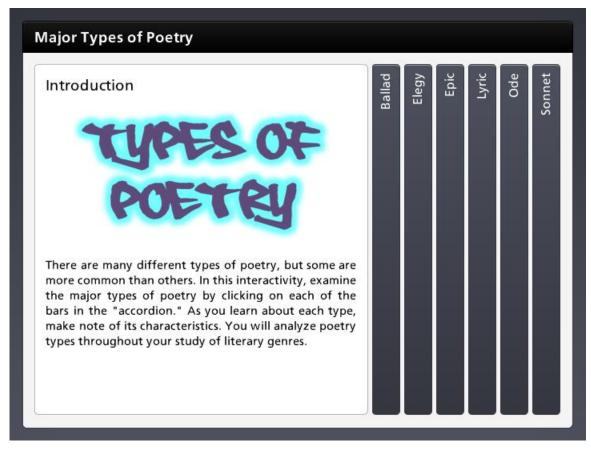
Introduction



There are many different types of poetry, but some are more common than others. In this interactivity, examine the major types of poetry by clicking on each of the bars in the "accordion." As you learn about each type, make note of its characteristics. You will analyze poetry types throughout your study of literary genres.



Ballad

Major Types of Poetry						
Ballad	Ballad	Elegy	Epic	Lyric	Ode	Sonnet
	Balad is a narrative poem that has a songlike quality. Ballads usually rhyme and tell love stories or stories of adventure. The speaker in a ballad is similar to a storyteller. Examples of ballads include "Casey at the Bat" by Ernest Thayer and the American folk ballad "The Ballad of Casey Jones."					So

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Elegy

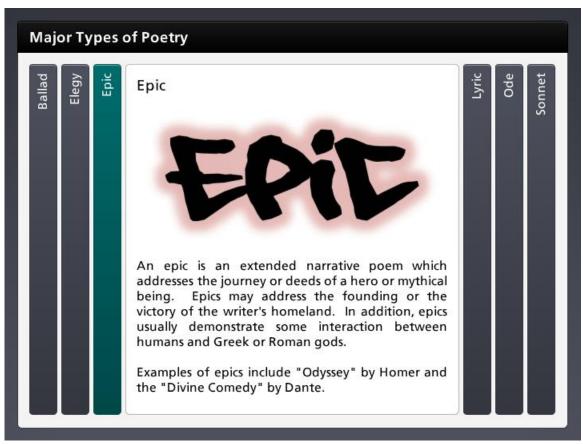


An elegy is a poem written to mourn someone or something that has passed away. The speaker can recount aspects of the poem's subject, or describe personal feelings of reflection. Elegies are not always plot driven, and usually include some sort of comfort towards the end of the poem.

An example of an elegy is "O Captain! My Captain!", which was written by the American poet Walt Whitman upon the death of President Abraham Lincoln.



Epic

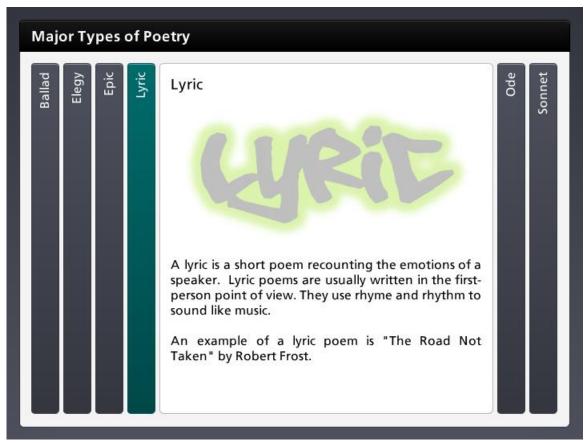


An epic is an extended narrative poem which addresses the journey or deeds of a hero or mythical being. Epics may address the founding or the victory of the writer's homeland. In addition, epics usually demonstrate some interaction between humans and Greek or Roman gods.

Examples of epics include "Odyssey" by Homer and the "Divine Comedy" by Dante.



Lyric

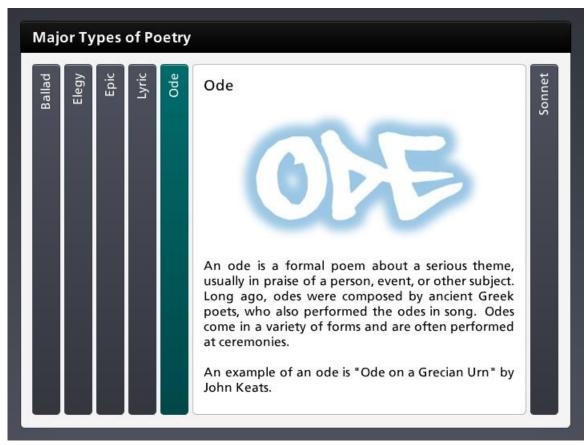


A lyric is a short poem recounting the emotions of a speaker. Lyric poems are usually written in the first-person point of view. They use rhyme and rhythm to sound like music.

An example of a lyric poem is "The Road Not Taken" by Robert Frost.



Ode

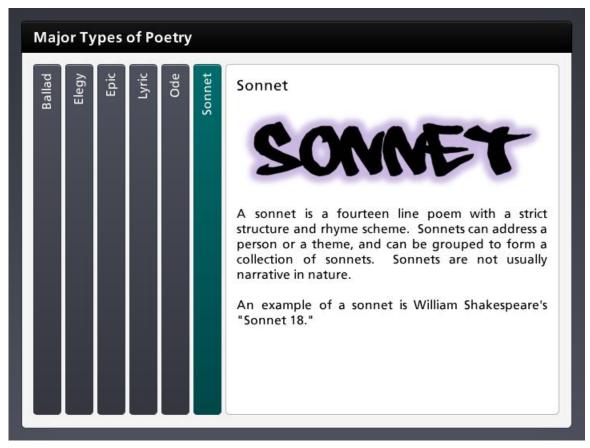


An ode is a formal poem about a serious theme, usually in praise of a person, event, or other subject. Long ago, odes were composed by ancient Greek poets, who also performed the odes in song. Odes come in a variety of forms and are often performed at ceremonies.

An example of an ode is "Ode on a Grecian Urn" by John Keats.



Sonnet



A sonnet is a fourteen line poem with a strict structure and rhyme scheme. Sonnets can address a person or a theme, and can be grouped to form a collection of sonnets. Sonnets are not usually narrative in nature.

An example of a sonnet is William Shakespeare's "Sonnet 18."

