

Limerick Poems



I once had a blind date with Cilla.



I took her to watch Aston Villa.



She sang to the crowd



And sang very loud



And that's why they threatened to kill 'er.



I went to the staffroom one day
For a nice cup of tea during the play
But a troll had got in
And was making a din
Even though he had nothing to say.

There was a young lady from Hyde,
Who ate a green apple and died.
While her lover lamented,
The apple fermented,
And made cyder inside her inside.

There was a young man from Dealing
Who was caught on the bus for stealing.
It said on the door
Don't spit on the floor
So he jumped up and spat on the ceiling

There was a young lady from Ickenham
Who went on a bus-trip to Twickenham.
She drank too much beer,
Which made her feel queer,
So she took off her boots and was sick-in-
'em.

Activities

1) Investigate the structure of a limerick. How many lines does a limerick have? How many syllables are there in each line? What is the rhythm of the limerick like? What is the pattern of rhyming in the limerick?

2) When the students become familiar with the structure of limericks, they could create some of their own. Depending on their age and ability, you might want to provide some starters for them, for example...

There once was a young man called Pete...

There once was a girl from Peru...

You could also provide sets of rhyming words for the children to use in their poems, for example...

Mark, dark, park, spark, lark, bark....

Wales, tales, sales, scales, nails, gales, males, quails, rails...

3) When the students have created their limericks, they could jumble up the lines, and ask their friends to rearrange the limerick back to the correct order (developing their sequencing skills).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t3OeU8GGusM>