

Wind
By Aaron Joerger

Wind flows like a river
from cloud mountains, whooshing
over landscapes of treetops,
through seas of air,

Mixing with the flood
of other brooks and streams,
torrents and eddies, unseen,
sweeping up leaves,

Shows its path, swirling, turning,
like athletes and dancers,
and lifting dust on waves and spray
colors sunset with bright liquid shades.

In my poem “Wind”, I used images to make my theme, how wind is like water, easier for the reader to see in their imagination. In line 1 I used a simile to compare wind to a river. In lines 9 and 10, I say swirling wind is like athletes and dancers. This is an example of simile and personification. In lines 7 and 8, torrents and eddies swirling in a flood of wind and in line 11, dust lifted on waves and spray are metaphors comparing wind to water. Cloud mountains and landscapes made of treetops in lines 2 and 3 make a word picture for the reader to imagine wind flowing through the sky. These images help the reader understand that you can’t see wind, but it acts like water in the way it moves and effects things.

Robot Wars
By Aaron Joerger

Fighting Robots
Wildly crash,
In the arena
Hammers mash.

Picks and axes
deadly clang,
destroy opponents
with a bang.

Remote control
warriors bash,
make this Geek
sport a smash!

In this rhyming poem the subject is robot combat, the theme is that people who don’t play sports themselves can still be part of an exciting competition. The rhyme scheme is AA, BB, AA. I think the rhythm is U U / in all the rhyming lines and all the lines in the third stanza, and the rhythm in the first two stanzas is U U / U, U U /, U U U / U, U U /. I used personification in line 10, calling the robots “warriors”.

Rosaline
By Aaron Joerger

Rosaline, oh Rosaline,
Who is this girl named Rosaline?
In this play you're never seen,
Rosaline, oh Rosaline,
You're nowhere in this play.

Rosaline, oh Rosaline,
Romeo loves Rosaline,
Shakespeare says in the second scene.
Rosaline, oh Rosaline,
Who is she, anyway?

Rosaline, oh Rosaline,
She's no teenage drama queen,
She doesn't have a suicide scene.
Rosaline, oh Rosaline,
She's better off that way!

In this poem, I am the speaker, but it could be anyone who read "Romeo and Juliet". The subject is a character who is mentioned but doesn't have a part. The theme is having a little bit of fun with a serious play that is hard to figure out if you are not used to reading Shakespeare, like me. The tone is playful, and so is the mood. This poem has a strong rhythm because I worked it out by singing it. The rhyme scheme is AAAAB all the way through. I used the R sound many times because I repeated Rosaline's name so much, but also in the line "Romeo loves Rosaline". There is also alliteration in line 6 with the S sound repeated, "Shakespeare says in the second scene." and in line 11, "She doesn't have a suicide scene."

Algebra
By Aaron Joerger

I thought I would write a few lines
About linear equations.
I thought I had them straight in my mind
Until parabolas threw me a curve.
 $Y = MX + B$
Which lines up straight,
Except when there are squares,
Which makes a curve,
Which is a roundabout way
Of saying my head is spinning.

In this narrative free verse poem, I am the speaker telling a story about trying to understand something from math. When I wrote it I was thinking of confusion and frustration, but I wanted the mood to be light and funny. I tried to do this by using as many words that had to do with lines and curves as I could. The only alliteration I used is in line 4 where the th sound repeats in "thought" and "them". The subject of the poem is linear equations, but the theme is how it feels to have a hard time learning something confusing.

Summer Heat
By Aaron Joerger

Hot, hot summer days
Concrete shimmers in the heat
Shock of cool water

I am the speaker in this Haiku. When I wrote this poem, I was remembering the heat of summer, and I also wanted my reader to think of summer and the surprise of cool water on their skin when it is hot outside. I was thinking of jumping into a pool. The repeated word “Hot” in line 1 is the only alliteration. I used the words “concrete shimmers” to make an image of heat. There is a shift from line 1 and 2 to three from heat to cold, and I used the word “shock” to make the shift bigger.