

## Poetry Meter and Forms

### Feet:

- iamb (da DAH)
- trochee (DAH da)
- anapest (da da DAH)
- dactyl (DAH da da)
- spondee (DAH DAH)

### Meter:

- dimeter (line of 2 feet)
- trimeter (line of 3 feet)
- tetrameter (line of 4 feet)
- pentameter (line of 5 feet)
- hexameter (line of 6 feet)
- heptameter (line of 7 feet)
- octameter (line of 8 feet)

### Forms:

- couplet—two rhymed lines
- triplet (tercet)—stanza of three lines
- quatrain—stanza of four lines
- cinquain—stanza of five lines
- sestet—stanza of six lines
- rime royal—seven lines of iambic pentameter (*a b a b b c c*)
- ottava rima—eight lines of iambic pentameter (*a b a b a b c c*)
- Spenserian stanza—nine lines: eight of iambic pentameter and the last iambic hexameter (*a b a b b c b c c*)
- nonce stanza—form made up for a particular poem

### Sonnet

- 14-lines of iambic pentameter
- Shakespearean (or Elizabethan) sonnet
  - rhymed in three quatrains and a couplet (*a b a b, c d c d, e f e f, g g*)
- Italian or Petrarchan Sonnet
  - rhymed in an octave and sestet (*a b b a a b b a, c d e c d e*)