

Writing Limericks

A limerick is a type of poem that has five lines. Limericks are often funny or silly. The rhyme in a limerick is important. Lines 1, 2, and 5 rhyme, and lines 3 and 4 rhyme. In most limericks, lines 3 and 4 are shorter than lines 1, 2, and 5.

Example: from *The Book of Nonsense* by Edward Lear

There was an Old Man of the Coast,
Who placidly sat on a post;
But when it was cold
He relinquished his hold,
And called for some hot buttered toast.

In this limerick *coast*, *post* and *toast* rhyme,
and *cold* and *hold* rhyme.

Below are opening lines for two limericks. Write the other lines to complete the limerick. Remember which lines that need to rhyme.



Limerick 1

1. There was a strong boy named Pete

2.

3.

4.

5.



Limerick 2

1. There was a brown dog with a nose

2.

3.

4.

5.

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Answers: Students choice



Limerick 2

1. There was a brown dog with a nose

2.

3.

4.

5.