



Name
Date

## Literature: Year 4 Poetry

Before you begin, gather your thoughts on poetry and poems by reading the following statements and then ticking *agree*, *disagree* or *unsure*.

	Agree	Disagree	Unsure
Poetry is the only time that writers use language tools such as rhythm and rhyme.			
Poems have to be serious.			
Originally, poems were meant to be sung.			
I hear poetry every day.			
Anyone can write poems.			
Poetry is a very old form of writing.			

Let's refresh our memories about some aspects of poetry.

- In poetry, a paragraph is called a *stanza*.
- Rhythm* is like the beat in music: the pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables of the words. All written texts have a rhythm. (Clap the rhythm)

Symbols:

- ∪ unstressed
- / stressed

∪ ∪ / ∪ ∪ / ∪ ∪ /  
**Oh, I wish I'd looked after me teeth,**

∪ / ∪ ∪ / ∪ ∪ /  
**And spotted the dangers beneath**

∪ ∪ / ∪ ∪ /  
**All the toffees I chewed,**

∪ ∪ / ∪ ∪ /  
**And the sweet sticky food.**

∪ ∪ / ∪ ∪ / ∪ ∪ /  
**Oh, I wish I'd looked after me teeth.**

- Rhyme* is made by the repetition of the same sound (not the spelling) at the end of different words.



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4. The *persona* of a poem is the person “I” who is speaking. Although it may sound like it, the persona is not the poet. We can tell a great deal about the persona from the way they speak and what they say.

How would you describe the persona’s personality from this poem. Your answer should be in sentence form with at least three adjectives.

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This poem takes a humorous approach to teeth. What are some of the techniques that Ayres uses to make us laugh – or at least chuckle?

Example	Name of technique

What does the persona wish she had done to look after her teeth? You may need to draw up this table on another page as it will be a long one.

**Retrieval Chart**

What she did to damage her teeth	What she wished she’d done to protect her teeth

Complete this table of what you do to your teeth and what you should do to keep your teeth.

What I do which could damage my teeth	What I need to do to protect my teeth



Calcious the Bonosaurus  
Long term bone care starts now

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Some of the activities you may be asked to complete.

- a) Write a poem from the point of view of *your* teeth. Prepare a reading for the class.
- b) Work with a friend to develop a conversation wherein two teeth discuss their treatment. Present to the class. You may like to consider a mask or costume.
- c) Use Ayres' techniques to create your own poem on another subject. It could be in a similar vein – say, eyes, skin, a healthy versus an unhealthy activity. Seek approval from your teacher for your topic.
- d) Using the computer, create a poster to encourage students to look after their teeth. Prepare a discussion as to why you constructed it in the way that you have. You may have to revise some of the advertising and media terms. Ask for permission before hanging it up in the canteen or classroom.
- e) Re-read each stanza and create a cartoon illustrating the kind of activity which damaged the persona's teeth.