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## How to Write a Haiku

Haiku is a type of Japanese poetry. Haiku are short poems that usually describe nature and a fleeting moment in time; they often contain a reference to a season of the year (called kigo).

Haiku often have a total of 17 syllables and usually have three lines:

1. The first line has five syllables,
2. The second line has seven syllables,
3. The third line has five syllables.

The first two lines of a Haiku are brief observations about the subject of the poem. Then, in the final line, the perspective or voice of the poem shifts, and a comment about the essence of the topic is offered, a point is made, and the heart is touched.

Write your own Haiku below. First, think of a scene in nature or a moment in time that made a deep impression upon you. Then think of words that describe it. The words in a Haiku do not have to rhyme and you don't have to write in complete sentences, but do make sure to have 5 syllables in the first line, 7 syllables in the second, and five syllables in the last. Briefly describe your scene in the first two lines. In the third line, express your thoughts about the essence of the topic.

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