

Find the Rhyme Scheme

One way to learn about a poem is to look at its rhyme scheme. To find the rhyme scheme, we give a letter to each ending sound of a line. Look at this example on the right.

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Sugar is sweet,
and so are you.

The first line ends with *red*, so that line is given the letter A. All lines that end in the same word or a word that rhymes with *red* will have an A. The second line ends in *blue*, which does not rhyme with *red*. The second line is given the letter B. The third line ends in *sweet*, which does not rhyme with either *red* or *blue*, so that line gets the letter C. The last line ends in *you*. Since *you* rhymes with *blue*, it is given the same letter as the second line, which is a B.

Writing the rhyme scheme would look like this:

Roses are red,	A
Violets are blue,	B
Sugar is sweet,	C
and so are you.	B

Below are some simple nursery rhymes. Write the rhyme scheme in the blanks next to the lines.



1. Sing a song of sixpence, _____
A pocket full of rye, _____
Four and twenty blackbirds, _____
Baked in a pie. _____

2. Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall, _____
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall. _____
All the king's horses and all the king's men _____
Couldn't put Humpty together again. _____



3. Hickory, dickory, dock, _____
The mouse ran up the clock, _____
The clock struck one, _____
The mouse ran down, _____
Hickory, dickory, dock. _____