



## The Origins of Narrative Poetry

Some of the earliest versions of poetry were narrative poems!

In the past, stories weren't written down, but instead spoken aloud, recited or sung. Rhymes, repetition, rhythm and metre made it easier for people to remember long and complex stories and histories, so they were told in the form of what we would today call poetry.

The two most famous examples of this are the Iliad and the Odyssey from Ancient Greece. These epics were originally recited orally and written down later.

Narrative poetry has evolved from this tradition.

## Annunciation Catholic Junior School KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER YEAR 4 - NARRATIVE POETRY

### What is narrative poetry?

A narrative poem is a type of poem which tells a story. It uses the poetic techniques you might normally find in a poem (such as rhyme, rhythm, similes and metaphors) to create a narrative.

Narrative poems are typically longer than other forms of poetry, and they tell an overarching story just like a novel. They have a plot, characters and a setting like a novel too.

Most narrative poems have only a single speaker: the narrator.

### Poetry Terms

Spelling	Definition
Synonym	One of two or more words that have the same or almost the same meaning.
Adjective	A word that describes a noun or pronoun.
Alliteration	The same letter or letter sounds used at the beginning of closely connected words.
Metaphor	A thing that is representative or symbolic of something else.
Stanza	A group of lines that forms a verse in a poem.
Simile	An expression that describes something as being like something else.
Rhyme	The repetition of similar sounds in two or more words