

# Fast Five: Correct the mistakes

1. We having fun at the party.
2. Is that you're bag?
3. John eated six cookies.
4. Wilma read two book.
5. My mother were a nurse.

## Fast Five- Answers

1. We **are** having fun at the party.
2. Is that **your** bag?
3. John **ate** six cookies.
4. Wilma read two **books**.
5. My mother **was** a nurse.

Can I identify rhyming  
patterns?

This poem's structure and rhyming patterns are quite regular. "Jabberwocky" is written solely in quatrains (four-line stanzas) that have a regular ABAB, CDCD, EFEF rhyme scheme.

That's a lot of syllables, so let's look at the first lines with the accents all marked out:

'Twas brill-ig, and the sli-thy toves

Did gyre and gim-ble in the wabe

## This affects how we read the poem

Do you notice how there are four stressed syllables in each line, and that they alternate neatly with unstressed syllables, with the unstressed syllable coming first? That is called **iambic tetrameter**. The *iambic* bit refers to the unstressed-STRESSED, unstressed-STRESSED rhythm of it, and the *tetrameter* bit is just to let you know that there are four iambs (or four unstressed-STRESSED groupings) in each line.

## Last line of each stanza

The only irregularity in the rhythm itself is the fact that the last line of each stanza only has *three* stresses, making it iambic *trimeter*. (See: "and **came** ga-lumph-ing **back**.")

# Ballad

What's a ballad? The short answer is that it's a song. Ballad stanza is traditionally found in folktale songs, and is used as a way for people to communicate legends and tales to each other orally. It's rhythm and rhyme make it easy to remember for this reason.

Even though it has some crazy language, "Jabberwocky" is no exception. Because it has the memorable rhythm and rhyme, "Jabberwocky" remains one of the most frequently memorized poems in the English language.

# Rhythm

Read this stanza aloud and clap the syllables . Which words rhyme?

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves  
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;  
All mimsy were the borogoves,  
And the mome raths outgrabe.

# Rhythm

Read this stanza aloud and clap the syllables . Which words rhyme?

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves  
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;  
All mimsy were the borogoves,  
And the mome raths outgrabe.

# Rhythm

Read this stanza aloud and clap the syllables . Which words rhyme?

"Beware the Jabberwock, my son  
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!  
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun  
The frumious Bandersnatch!"

# Rhythm

Read this stanza aloud and clap the syllables . Which words rhyme?

"Beware the Jabberwock, my son  
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!  
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun  
The frumious Bandersnatch!"

How could you describe the rhyming pattern?

# The Pattern

The poem follows an ABAB format. This means line 1 of the stanza rhymes with line 3 of the stanza, so we call the lines A. Line 2 rhymes with line 4 of the stanza, so we call these lines B

"Beware the Jabberwock, my son  
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!"      A      B  
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun  
The frumious Bandersnatch!"      A      B

# RED

Look through the poem and write down the words that rhyme.

Are there any pairs of lines that don't rhyme?

# Yellow

Look through the poem and identify the words that rhyme.

Are there any pairs of lines that don't rhyme?

For Stanzas 1 to 4 , look at the words that rhyme. Can you think of other words that would rhyme?

Eg wabe and outgrabe also rhyme with babe.

# Green

"Beware the Jabberwock, my son  
The jaws that bite, **the claws that catch!**  
Beware the Jubjub bird, **and shun**  
**The frumious Bandersnatch!"**

Lewis Carroll often uses nonsense words in his poems.

Can you adapt the poem by rewriting the highlighted sections?

Ensure that you follow the ABAB rhyming pattern..

Could you invent nonsense words?

# Example

"Beware the Jabberwock, my dear  
The jaws that bite, the flames that roar!  
Beware the Jubjub bird, and fear  
The bogglesome Rendermore!"

# Red/Yellow Answers

## Jabberwocky

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves  
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;  
All mimsy were the borogoves,  
And the mome raths outgrabe.

"Beware the Jabberwock, my son  
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!  
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun  
The frumious Bandersnatch!"

He took his vorpal sword in hand;  
Long time the manxome foe he sought-  
So rested he by the Tumtum tree,  
And stood awhile in thought.

# Red/Yellow Answers

And, as in uffish thought he stood,  
The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,  
Came whiffling through the tulgey wood,  
And burbled as it came!

One, two! One, two! And through and through  
The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!  
He left it dead, and with its head  
He went galumphing back.

"And hast thou slain the Jabberwock?  
Come to my arms, my beamish boy!  
O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay!"  
He chortled in his joy.

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves  
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;  
All mimsy were the borogoves,  
And the mome raths outgrabe.

# Yellow Answers

Wabe, outgrabe	babe
Toves, borogoves	Clove, drove, strove
Sun, shun	Bun , done , none
Catch, bandersnatch	Latch, patch,, scratch
Sought, thought	Ought, fought, bought
Stood, wood	could, should, would
Flame, came	Blame, grain , mane, main, sprain, brain, claim