

**17****Structure of Poetry**

**Review:** The **form and structure** of a poem relate to the way it lays out on the page, to the way the lines are punctuated, and to the way the poem is divided. In a poem structured in stanzas, each stanza often corresponds to a unit of thought. The **meter** of a poem is the repetition of a regular rhythmic unit.

**A. Directions:** Circle the letter of the *best* answer.

1. Poetic form is which of the following?
  - a. the arrangement of a poem's words into lines and sometimes into stanzas
  - b. the number of syllables in each line of a poem
  - c. the use of rhyme in a poem
  
2. Which of the following best defines a stanza?
  - a. a group of two or more lines that forms a unit in a poem
  - b. a thought that continues straight on from one line to the next
  - c. a full stop at the end of a line in a poem
  
3. Which of the following is used to divide a poem into stanzas?
  - a. a space
  - b. a comma
  - c. a period

**B. Directions:** Read the following lines. Then **answer** the items that follow.

The nineteenth autumn has come upon me  
 Since I first made my count;  
 I saw, before I had well finished,  
 All suddenly mount  
 5 And scatter wheeling in great broken rings  
 Upon their clamorous wings.  
 — from “The Wild Swans at Coole,” by William Butler Yeats

4. After which words should you pause when reading these lines aloud?
  - a. me, count, finished, mount, rings, wings
  - b. count, saw, finished, wings
  - c. me, count, finished, wings
  
5. What is the meter of the second line?
  - a. iambic pentameter
  - b. iambic tetrameter
  - c. iambic trimeter