

A lyric poem...

1. is a brief poem which expresses the feelings or thoughts of the speaker
2. uses rich, imaginative, musical language, and rich imagery.
3. usually represents the speaker as "I."
4. does not tell a story like a narrative poem does.
5. *Lyric* is derived from the word *lyre*, a stringed musical instrument which was used by ancient Greek poets who played and sang their poems in chant-like fashion to build up emotions of the poems and help listeners respond - hence we get the word lyrics - words to a song.

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#### Class Discussion Questions

1. How is "Jenny Kissed Me" a lyric poem? Use details; quote phrases from the poem that prove it is a lyric poem.
2. Name some of the feelings/emotions the speaker has. Explain your answer.
3. What literary writing technique does the poet use? Explain your answer.

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## Quiz Questions

1. “Jenny Kissed Me” is written by \_\_\_\_\_.
2. “Jenny Kissed Me” is a \_\_\_\_\_ (type) poem.
3. This type of poem has four main characteristics. List them.
4. Write the poem (use eight lines).
5. In line three, what literary writing technique does the poet use? Explain fully.
6. Explain the origin of the word answered in item two from above.
7. Write the words from lines 7 and 8, which signal pauses in reading.
8. To whom is the speaker talking in this poem?
9. What special event happened in the speaker’s life?
10. What two indications do we have that this event was unexpected?

\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Jenny,

It has been many years since that day you jumped out of your chair to kiss me. What a pleasant surprise that was. I had always hoped that someday we would marry, but it seemed that life had other plans for me. Our lives took very different paths. My life has been a simple one. My job on the assembly line, while it may not seem glamorous, kept food on the table. Even though I married and raised my own family, I have watched with interest as your career has soared – seeing you in the movies and in the magazines.

You have probably forgotten that day many years ago, but for me, it is the one bright memory in my life. My spirits rise when I remember that day; it helps me feel less old and helps me forget my failing health. I hope your life, though to me it seems very busy, has been a happy one. I thank you for my fondest memory, and I wish you all the best.

Sincerely,

Jerry