

# Catcher in The Rye Poetry Project

There will be 4 REQUIRED poems --

## 1. Limerick Poetry

A limerick has a particular form and rhyme. It is usually humorous and contains 5 lines. The last words of the first, second, and fifth lines rhyme with each other (A), and the last words of the third and fourth lines rhyme with each other (B). Ideas for this poem can come from any place in the book.

Here is an example:

Everyone you meet, you think is a phony (A)  
Not one of them would you call a crony (A)  
You meet life with fear (B)  
Only Phoebe and Allie stay dear (B)  
When will you learn that your philosophy is baloney? (A)

## 2. Ode To Allie

An ode is a poem of praise to a person, place, or thing. An ode does not have to rhyme. Your poem will honor Allie. Some questions to help you write your poem:

What was Allie like?  
Why is he so important to Holden?  
Why does Holden feel this way?  
What might Allie represent or symbolize?

Here is an example:

Who were you?  
Smiling, red hair bobbing  
Racing so fast,  
fast, faster  
Leaving life behind  
while I stumble,  
fall  
I needed you guy.  
You were the best.

### 3. Poem from a Different Point of View

Pretend that you are one of the other characters in the book: Phoebe, D.B., Jane, Sally, Stradlater, Mr. Spencer, Mrs. Morrow, Sunny, Maurice, the nuns, Carl Luce, etc., and write a poem about Holden, describing your feelings and thoughts about him.

Here is an example:

Mr. Spencer

Why do you struggle so  
in a world where you could do anything, go anywhere?  
You fight ghosts  
facing the wrong direction  
With all the light,  
you only see darkness.

Oh Holden – youth is elusive,  
Enjoy your time  
Age creeps up and then like me,  
you come full circle.  
Don't be empty  
Look inside.  
Be someone – something – anything.

4. **Found Poem**

Found poems are created by selecting words, phrases, or quotes from the novel. Then you will rearrange them in poetic form. Your aim is to create a poem that captures the mood or essence of the novel. You may want to provide new insight for the reader. End your poem by using arranged by and your name since the words are not your own. Here is any example

I won't Dance – don't ask me

I didn't feel like it.  
You want to know the truth?  
I NEVER DANCE!  
It wasn't anything physical

I can't understand  
How the hell should I know why?  
It was very phony  
I'm too big to dance.

Arranged by Diane Hu