

NAME: _____

Tanka Poem

Tanka means 'short song' and is an ancient Japanese form of poetry that tells a story of life, feelings or nature. Modern Tanka poems are broken into five poetic lines. The basic structure of a tanka poem is 5 – 7 – 5 – 7 – 7. Tankas contain different types of literary devices, such as personification, metaphors, & similes.

EXAMPLE:



SPRINGTIME

Cherry blossoms swirl
sweetly scenting the air with
brand new beginnings.

Each petal whispers softly
as it sashays: Spring is here.

Your Turn

1.	_____	5 syllables
2.	_____	7 syllables
3.	_____	5 syllables
4.	_____	7 syllables
5.	_____	7 syllables