

*Types of Rhyme:*

Paper Rhymes.

They look good on paper, but the singer must bend the sound of the words to make them rhyme (i.e. Find and Wind)

Identical Rhymes.

Identical Rhymes are words that sound similar, but have different meanings (i.e. fair and fare).

Regional Rhymes.

Regional dialects change the pronunciation of certain words.

Imperfect or False Rhymes.

Rhymes created by dropping the ending (especially –ing or –s) of a word (i.e. going becomes goin' or cream rhyming with dream(s)).

*Rhyme Accent:*

A Rhyme may accent the last syllable (i.e. greed and heed, through and you).

A Rhyme may accent the next to last syllable (i.e. action and traction).

A Rhyme may have an accented syllable followed by two unaccented syllables (i.e. conventional and intentional).

*Inner Rhymes:*

A line may have two parts that rhyme.

Your little laugh and half winked smile

The love in your eyes gleaming across the miles,

*Rhyme Schemes:*

AABB

ABAB

ABCB

AABCCB

AAABCCCB

*Word Usage:*

Simile and Metaphor

Alliteration (*Bad, Bad, Leroy Brown*)

Onomatopoeia (Words that imitate the natural sounds they represent – i.e. buzz, clang, etc.)

Words that do not sing

Filling out a lyric (Adding words that do not change the meaning of the line in order to fill out the melodic line – i.e. words like very and oh (*Oh, What a Beautiful Morning*)).

Match Musical Accents to Word Meaning

*Lyric Writing Tips:*

- 1.) The title should be interesting and used several times in the chorus of the song.
- 2.) Write a hook. A hook is a strong, short melodic and/or rhythmic idea that the listener will remember. Repeat the hook often.
- 3.) The opening words should “grab” the listener and intrigue them to listen to the song.
- 4.) Make your point early (often within the first fifteen seconds).
- 5.) Words and Melody must be strong enough to stand alone without the arrangement.
- 6.) Keep a consistent tone. If you’re writing with a suburban style, be sure every word sounds like a suburban person would sing.
- 7.) Use contemporary language. Check out popular newspapers and magazines for contemporary language (i.e. internet, computers, etc.).
- 8.) Don’t go on any longer than necessary. Most songs are from 2-3 minutes in length.

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