

# Free Verse

**Free Verse:** An irregular form of poetry that is free from normal rules of rhythm and rhyme. The poet may include some rhyming words, but the poem does not have to rhyme.

“After the Sea-Ship” by Walt Whitman

After the Sea-Ship—after the whistling winds;  
After the white-gray sails, taut to their spars and ropes,  
Below, a myriad, myriad waves, hastening, lifting up  
their necks,  
Tending in ceaseless flow toward the track of the ship:  
Waves of the ocean, bubbling and gurgling, blithely  
prying,  
Waves, undulating waves—liquid, uneven, emulous  
waves,  
Toward that whirling current, laughing and buoyant,  
with curves,  
Where the great Vessel, sailing and tacking, displaced  
the surface;

“Fog” by Carl Sandburg

The fog comes  
on little cat feet.  
It sits looking  
over harbor and city  
on silent haunches  
and then moves on.

