

## Haiku

on spring horizon  
conifers scratch gray-bottomed  
rain-itchy storm clouds

spring horizon  
conifers scratch the bottoms  
of storm clouds

cloud-cap, cloud-scarf  
removed by white-haired Mt. Shasta  
in warm April sun

mt. shasta  
April sun removes  
its cloud-cap

**Haiku:** Traditional haiku was 17 syllables in 3 lines about nature.  
There are many rules to learn if you follow this poetry pattern. Untitled  
5 syllables = 1st line  
7 syllables = 2<sup>nd</sup> line  
5 syllables = 3<sup>rd</sup> line.

Contemporary haiku do not have to be three lines or 17 syllables.  
Many are close like 4-8-6. Many modern haiku do not have punctuation or capitalization. They do not even have to be about nature.

The haiku on the left are in traditional form. The haiku on the right in contemporary style.

Some of the many variations are: American Sentence, Lune, Senryu, Tweeku, Zip Haiku.