

Songwriting series

Part 3 (of 4)

Rhyming & Rhythm



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music

Rhyme schemes

4 lines

Line 1 (no rhyme)

Line 2 (rhymes with line 4)

Line 3 (no rhyme)

Line 4 (rhymes with line 2)

Line 1 (rhymes with line 2)

Line 2 (rhymes with line 1)

Line 3 (rhymes with line 4)

Line 4 (rhymes with line 3)

Line 1 (rhymes with line 2)

Line 2 (rhymes with line 1)

Line 3 (no rhyme)

Line 4 (rhymes with line 1)

Line 1 (no rhyme)

Line 2 (no rhyme)

Line 3 (rhymes with line 4)

Line 4 (rhymes with line 3)

6 lines

Line 1 (rhymes with line 2)

Line 2 (rhymes with line 1)

Line 3 (rhymes with line 6)

Line 4 (rhymes with line 5)

Line 5 (rhymes with line 4)

Line 6 (rhymes with line 3)

Line 1 (rhymes with line 2)

Line 2 (rhymes with line 1)

Line 3 (rhymes with line 4)

Line 4 (rhymes with line 3)

Line 5 (rhymes with line 6)

Line 6 (rhymes with line 5)

My song example

Verse 1

It's a beautiful day, the sun is out

10

We're all together in the here and now

10

Time's slowed down enough to help us see

9

We were ready to make a change

8

So we walk and talk the hours away

9

Searching to find what this all means

8

Chorus

We've been moving so fast, planning so far ahead

12

Have we been wishing our lives away?

9

The sun will keep shining, the world will keep turning

12

But we'll never have this day again

9

Bridge

Sunlight on the water

Shadows through the trees

The smell of summer

Floating on the breeze

Life on pause

Feeling at peace

Wide awake

Nowhere I'd rather be

**Think about where you want the hook line*

Rhythm

- The most common time signature is 4/4 time: 4 beats in a bar
- Clap or use a shaker/tambourine to count to 4 during these songs
 - Bruce Springsteen 'Hungry Heart' (<https://youtu.be/boJhWtw-6Gg>)
 - George Ezra, 'Shotgun' (<https://youtu.be/aAiVsqfbn5g>)
- So we'll stick to 4/4 time for now too

Referring back to our rhyme schemes, we can also see that these examples also follow common patterns:

Got a wife and kids in Baltimore, Jack
I went out for a ride and I never went back
Like a river that don't know where it's flowing
I took a wrong turn and I just kept going

Time flies by in the yellow and green
Stick around and you'll see what I mean
There's a mountaintop that I'm dreaming of
If you need me you know where I'll be

**If it doesn't flow when you read it out loud, try counting syllables*

Remember that:

- One or two syllables difference between lines will probably still work
- Don't count any words you sing before the first downbeat

Overview

In writing our song, so far we have:

- Researched our idea
- Learnt how to use rhyme schemes to create full song sections
- Used 4/4 time to set the beat

See if you can write out your full set of lyrics before next week's session when we'll bring our songs to life with music.

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Next time: Mood & Music

