

Stanza

Definitions

- Stanzas are the building blocks of formal poetry, like paragraphs in a story or verses in a song. They usually have the same number of lines each time, and often use a rhyming pattern that repeats with each new stanza.
- Stanzas are how a poem is separated. If there is a line skipped on the page, the poet is starting a new stanza.
- One of the divisions of a poem, composed of two or more lines usually characterized by a common pattern of meter, rhyme, and number of lines.

Example

“The Eagle”

by Alfred Lord Tennyson

He clasps the crag with crooked hands:
Close to the sun it lonely lands,
Ringed with the azure world, it stands.

The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls;
He watches from his mountain walls,
And like a thunderbolt he falls.

Note: The first three lines are the first stanza, and the next three lines make up the second stanza.

Further Examples:

<http://examples.yourdictionary.com/stanza-examples.html>