

The Limerick

There once was a girl named Maureen
Who wished she were skinny and lean
But she loved pizza pie,
Pastrami on rye,
And ate till her plate was clean.

A lady who loved the trombone
Was lucky she lived all alone.
When she started to play,
Her friends stayed away,
And left her to sputter and moan.

There once was a poodle named Rose
Who liked to dance on her toes.
She twirled and she spun,
Had barrels of fun,
Until she fell on her nose

—Emma Janeczko

There once was a girl named Ann
Who wanted to buy a fan.
She skipped to the store
And dashed through the door,
Where she tripped and fell in a pan.

—Emma Janeczko

Name _____ Date _____

Drafting Your Limerick

Now it's your turn to write a limerick.

1 If you need help getting started, you might try one of these opening lines:
There once was a boy/girl named _____, or *There once was a
 boy/girl from _____*.

2 Once you have your first line, brainstorm a few rhyming words for the next line.

3 Next, look over your list of words that rhyme and see how you can make some of them part of your poem. Remember, a limerick is really a very short story, so anything you include must make sense and help tell that story. In other words, don't use a line simply because it rhymes with another line.

Brainstormed Rhyming Words

There once was a boy/girl named _____

Brainstormed Rhyming Words

There once was a boy/girl from _____

4 Now invent your own first line and write a limerick to go with it!
