



Sijo Poetry & Contest

Creative Writing

A dark grey arrow points to the right from the left edge of the slide. Below it, several thin, curved lines in shades of blue and grey sweep across the left side of the slide.

What is sijo poetry?

- ▶ Sijo poetry is a traditional three-line Korean poetic form
- ▶ It is related to haiku and tanka
- ▶ Each line has 14-16 syllables with a grand total of 42-48 syllables
- ▶ The first line introduces an idea or story, the second supplies a “turn,” and the third provides closure



A Couple of Examples

*You ask how many friends I have? Water and stone, bamboo and pine,
The moon rising over the eastern hill is a joyful comrade.
Besides these five companions, what other pleasure should I ask?*

Misty moonlight spills over the top of the wall
One or two paulownia blooms silently drop
My feet hesitate to go; I turn and look back



Contest Info

www.sejongculturalsociety.org/writing

- ▶ Submission Deadline: 28 February 2026
- ▶ Submit your poem online (website listed above)
- ▶ Only one submission per person—must be in English
- ▶ Prizes: 1st-\$500, 2nd-\$400, 3rd-\$300
- ▶ Friends of Pacific Rim Award--\$50