

This book for
intermediate- to
advanced-level
students will
really improve
your English!

Poetry in English

Learn English with
these fantastic poems

- Learn over 150 useful words and expressions!
- Improve your listening skills!
- Increase your range of vocabulary!
- Perfect your pronunciation and spoken English!



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Welcome

TO THE POETRY IN ENGLISH BOOK

This book will help you learn over 150 useful words and expressions, and really improve your listening, pronunciation and speaking skills, as well as increasing your range of vocabulary:

THIS BOOK IS PERFECT FOR...

- Learners of all ages!
- Parents of children learning English.
- Teachers of English!

THIS BOOK INCLUDES:

- A selection of poems by George Szirtes.
- Activities to increase your range of vocabulary.
- Audio files to improve your listening skills.
- A wide variety of topics and themes related to English-language culture.
- Comprehension exercises so you can check your understanding.
- Pronunciation activities to perfect your speaking skills.
- Glossaries in English so you can learn the meaning of new words.



THERE ARE SIX KEY FEATURES TO THIS BOOK.

1 IMAGES

The photos and images will help you understand the language and better appreciate the meaning of the poems.

2 AUDIO FILES

The audio files will help improve your listening, pronunciation and speaking skills. You'll also learn about lots of features of spoken English, such as sentence stress, intonation and rhythm.

3 DEFINITIONS

The English-language definitions of the key terms and expressions will help you understand the meaning of words and get you thinking in English.

4 VOCABULARY

The poems have been carefully selected so you will learn lots of useful words. You'll also see how language can be used in interesting and original ways. This will help develop your sense of creativity and stimulate your passion for English.

5 TOPICS & THEMES

The interesting topics and themes will help you learn about traditions from English-speaking countries. Also, having language organised in topics and themes is great for your vocabulary development as it's easier to learn words when they're grouped together.

6 RHYMING LANGUAGE

The rhyming language will help you learn about the different sounds in English. On top of that, rhyming language is easier to memorise, so you'll learn even more English.

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Good luck!

And we hope you enjoy learning lots of English with this booklet.

The Learn Hot English Team



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In the Park: Autumn

A chill gust elbows
the leaves one way then another.
The lady with the umbrella
billows past us like a blown leaf.

We are running on the path,
me and my brother.
We too might get blown away
with the leaves.



In the Park

In the Park: Winter

Everything is frozen, especially me.
Those cold imps scrambling up my sleeve
and down my collar have mischief in mind.

The bare branches stand stiffly to attention.
My ears are like two wounds, red and raw.
Does winter have to be cruel to be kind?



In the Park: Spring

It is like the world in the morning
suddenly very bright and startling.
Things bounce and blossom. It is
as if my fingers had turned into streams
of light and warmth. And there's the pond
with its ducklings. Too much of everything.

In the Park: Summer

Even the wind has grown lazy.
We are leisurely on the lawn, la la.
Can you hear singing? It's just the grass
pretending to sing. Maybe it's us.
Maybe we are turning into music.
Maybe we are lazy. Maybe we should sleep.



For more poems like this, buy Poetry in English

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PRE-LISTENING

Match the “park” words (1 to 8) to the pictures (a-h).

1. Bench
2. Branch
3. Leaf (plural: leaves)
4. Path
5. Pond
6. Duckling (a baby duck)
7. Pigeon
8. Fountain



a



b



c



d



e



f



g



h

LISTENING

You're going to listen to a poem about a park in different seasons. Which words do you associate with each season? Complete the table with the words below, or any other words of your choice. There's no right or wrong answer.

-
-
-

Autumn	Winter	Spring	Summer

Then, read or listen to the poem once to compare your ideas.

PRONUNCIATION

PART I

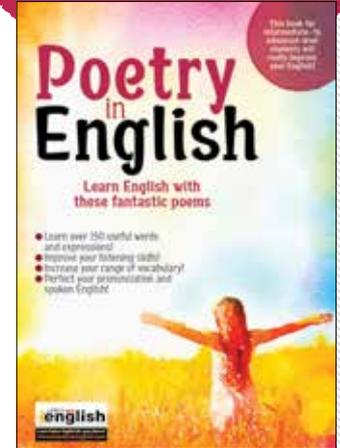
Listen and repeat these words with the / əʊ / sound: *goat, show, no, go, slow, blow, oh, grow, elbow, frozen*

Now, listen and repeat these words with the / ɔɪ / sound: *choice, boy, toy, coin, join, royal, poison, oil, soil, voice*

PART II

Read the sentences. Underline the words with the / əʊ / or / ɔɪ / sound. Then, listen to check your answers.

1. The show was great.
2. I found a few coins on the floor.
3. She killed him with poison.
4. I don't want to go now.
5. The plant won't grow there.
6. We've got no choice.



GLOSSARY

- chill** *adj*
very cold
- a gust** *n*
a short, strong amount of wind
- an umbrella** *n*
an object you hold when it's raining to stop you getting wet
- to billow** *vb*
if an object "billows", it moves slowly in the wind
- frozen** *adj*
if something is "frozen", it has become ice
- an imp** *n*
a small, magical creature that often plays tricks on people
- to scramble up** *phr vb*
if you "scramble up" a place, you climb it using your hands to help you
- a sleeve** *n*
the arms of your shirt, jacket, etc.
- a collar** *n*
the part of your shirt that goes around your neck
- mischief** *n*
if someone is up to "mischief", they're playing tricks or being naughty
- in mind** *exp*
if you have something "in mind", you're thinking about doing it
- bare** *adj*
if the branches of a tree are "bare", they have no leaves on them
- stiff** *adj*
something that's "stiff" is firm and doesn't bend or move easily
- a wound** *n*
an injury or cut on your body
- raw** *adj*
if a part of your body is "raw", it's red and painful
- (you have to be) cruel to be kind** *exp*
this expression means that sometimes it's necessary to do bad things to someone because in the future they will benefit from this
- startling** *adj*
surprising
- to bounce** *vb*
if a ball "bounces", it goes up after you throw it onto the ground
- to blossom** *vb*
when a tree "blossoms", flowers appear on it
- a stream of light** *exp*
a thin line of light
- lazy** *adj*
if you're feeling "lazy", you don't want to do any work
- a lawn** *n*
an area of grass that is cut very short