

LESSON 1

THE HEART OF LYRIC POETRY: EXPRESSING EMOTION THROUGH WORDS





Path to Understanding

Have you ever heard a song that made you feel something special, like happiness, love, or sadness? Lyric poetry works similarly, using words to express emotions, much like a song without music. It is a type of poem that conveys personal feelings and emotions, often with a musical quality, and includes forms such as elegy, odes, pastoral, and free verse.

Each form of lyric poetry has its unique style and rhythm but shares the common goal of expressing feelings beautifully. Unlike other types of poetry, lyric poetry does not tell a story but captures thoughts, moods, and emotions.

In the Philippines, lyric poetry is an integral part of Philippine culture. Traditional songs like kundiman (love songs) were often used to share emotions. For example, people sang kundiman to show love and admiration. One great example of Filipino lyric poetry is *Sa Aking Mga Kabata* by José Rizal. Here's the English version:

Key Concept Unveiled!

Literature is any written or spoken work that uses words to express ideas, feelings, or tell stories. It can be poems, stories, plays, or even songs that entertain, **Literature** each lessons, or share thoughts about the world.

Two Types of

1. Fiction

- Fiction is made-up stories or works. These are created from the imagination and are not real. Examples are fairy tales, novels, and short stories.

2. Non-Fiction

- Non-fiction is about real events, people, and facts. These works are true and based on real information. Examples are biographies, news articles, and history books.

Structural context refers to how a story, poem, or text is organized or built. It looks at the way the parts of the work fit together to make it complete and meaningful. For example, in a story, the structural context includes the introduction, middle, and ending.

To My Fellow Youth (*Sa Aking Mga Kabata*)

-Dr. Jose Rizal

Whenever a people, in profound ¹ cultural embrace,
Cherishes their native language as a treasure of grace,
Freedom shall crown their nation with a noble refrain,
Like the phoenix², they'll rise from bondage's chain.

A tongue unbound is like a bird in the skies,
It soars, unhampered³, with dreams that arise;
A land that honors its speech and its art,
Will never face decay, nor perish in heart.

For language is the lifeblood of liberty,
The bond of our unity, the root of our decree.
A people deprived⁴ of their cherished native sound,
Are a tree without roots, adrift⁵ in the ground.

Cherish and nurture your tongue divine,
As it holds your essence, your native sign.
In every phrase, the soul of your race is sown,
For without it, the pride of a people is overthrown⁶.

This poem encourages us to value our language and culture. Lyric poetry, like this one, helps us express feelings while keeping our traditions alive.



Word Wizard – Power Up Your Vocabulary

- ¹**Profound** – Something very deep or meaningful, like a big idea or strong feeling.
- ²**Phoenix** – A magical bird from stories that burns itself and then comes back to life from its s.
- ³**Unhindered** – Free to move or do something without being stopped or blocked.
- ⁴**Deprived** – Not having something you need, like food, love, or a safe place.
- ⁵**Adrift** – Floating without control, like a boat lost in the water or someone feeling lost in life.
- ⁶**Overthrown**– When someone in power is removed or defeated, like losing his throne.

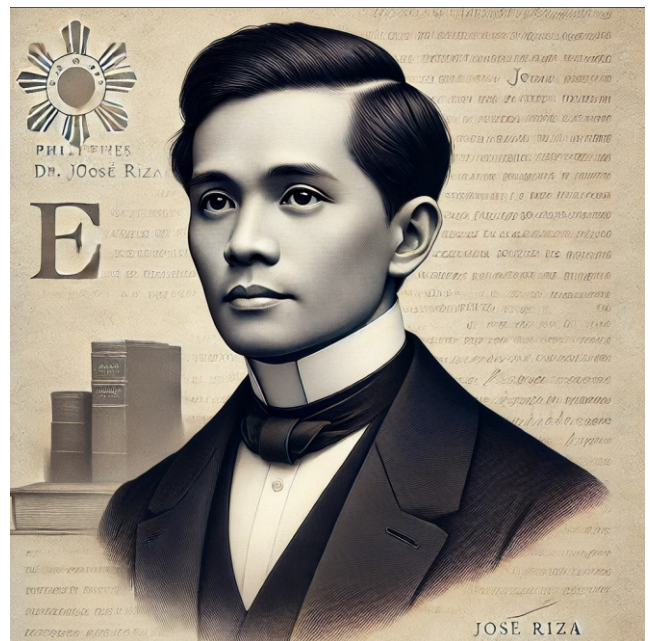


Trivia Time– About The Author

José Rizal, born on June 19, 1861, in Calamba, Laguna, was a child prodigy. By three, three could already read, and was writing poetry at five. At five Rizal's mother, Teodora Alonso, was his first teacher, nurturing his love for learning. His early education included studying Latin and Spanish, showcasing his exceptional linguistic talent. Rizal's fascination with storytelling and art began as a young boy, which is evident in his sketches, clay sculptures, and poetry, including the famous *Sa Aking Mga Kabata*, which he allegedly wrote at just eight years old. These early achievements reflected the brilliance that would later define his role as a national hero.

If you'd like to learn more about Dr. Jose Rizal, feel free to check out this link!

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jose-Rizal>





Extend Your Learning!

Heartfelt Verses: Unraveling Emotions in Filipino Poetry

Instructions

Part I: Understanding the Poem's Emotions

Read the poem *Sa Aking Mga Kabata* by José Rizal. You may read it in its original Filipino version or the provided English translation.

- Identify at least three emotions the poem expresses (e.g., pride, love, hope, sadness).
- Find supporting evidence by highlighting words, phrases, or lines that convey each emotion.
- Write a short explanation (2-3 sentences per emotion) about how these words/phrases express that particular feeling.

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Developing	Needs Improvement	Points Earned
Part 1: Identifying Emotions	(5 pts) Accurately identifies at least three emotions with substantial justification.	(4 pts) Identifies three emotions but lacks depth in explanation.	(3 pts) Identifies only two emotions or weak justification.	(2-1 pts) Identifies one or no emotions, or lacks clarity.	___/5 pts
Part 1: Supporting Evidence	(5 pts) Provides well-chosen words/phrases from the poem, clearly illustrating emotions with insightful explanations.	(4 pts) Provides evidence, but some connections between words and emotions could be stronger.	(3 pts) Provides minimal evidence or explanations that are unclear	(2-1 pts) Lacks supporting evidence or unclear justification.	___/5 pts

Total Score: ___/10

Part 2: Connecting to Filipino Lyric Poetry

- Choose a traditional Filipino lyric poem, kundiman, or harana. You may use the provided list, search online, or ask family members about a familiar one.
- Analyze the emotions in your chosen piece:
 - What is the primary emotion it conveys?
 - How does the song/poem express this emotion? (e.g., through words, tone, imagery, melody)
- Write a short reflection (3-5 sentences) explaining how this piece exemplifies lyric poetry

Part 2: Selection of Filipino Lyric Poetry	(3 pts) Selects a relevant traditional Filipino lyric poem, kundiman, or harana that aligns well with the task.	(2 pts) Selects a piece, but relevance to the activity is slightly unclear.	(1 pt) Selection is weakly connected to Filipino lyric poetry.	(No score) No selection or an inappropriate choice is made.	___/3 pts
Part 2: Analysis of Emotion	(4 pts) Analyzes the primary emotion, providing strong explanations on how it is expressed through words, imagery, or melody.	(3 pts) Provides a reasonable analysis but lacks some depth or clarity.	2 pts) Analysis is minimal or lacks strong connections.	(1 pt-0) Analysis is unclear, overly brief, or missing.	___/4 pts
Reflection & Coherence (3 pts)	(3 pts) Reflection is thoughtful, well-organized, and explains how the piece exemplifies lyric poetry.	(2 pts) Reflection is clear but may lack depth or cohesion.	(1 pt) Reflection is brief or lacks strong connections to lyric poetry.	(No score) Reflection is unclear, too brief, or off-topic.	___/3 pts

Total Score: ___/10