



## Using the Slash in Writing



The slash, also called the virgule, is used in text to represent a line break in poetry or other writings that use specific line breaks, such as headlines.

When using a slash in this manner, a space comes before and after the slash.

### Example:

#### Original text:

Romeo notices Juliet at the beginning of the balcony scene by saying,  
 “But soft! what light through yonder window breaks?  
 It is the east, and Juliet is the sun!”

#### With a slash:

Romeo notices Juliet at the beginning of the balcony scene by saying, “But soft! what light through yonder window breaks? / It is the east, and Juliet is the sun.”

Rewrite each passage below, using a slash to include the lines of the poem. Remember to include quotation marks.

1. Robert Frost reflects on the spirit of individualism and adventure when he wrote:

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
 I took the one less traveled by,  
 And that has made all the difference.

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2. In Poe’s “The Raven,” the author uses internal rhymes and alliteration to enhance the rhythm of the poem, as shown by:

While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,  
 As of some one gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door.

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3. One of the most famous quotations from Shakespeare’s “Richard III” is:

Now is the winter of our discontent  
 Made glorious summer by this sun of York.

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4. Wordsworth sets the scene of his poem “She Dwelt Among Untrodden Ways” with his opening quatrain by saying:

She dwelt among th’ untrodden ways  
 Beside the springs of Dove

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