Iambic Pentameter

The term iambic pentameter describes a line of poetry consisting of five feet, where each foot contains one unstressed syllable followed by one stressed syllable. Many poets throughout history have written in iambic pentameter. William Shakespeare used iambic pentameter in his plays.

DIRECTIONS: Read the assigned passage. Find three examples of lines that are written in iambic pentameter. Write the line. Above the words, mark each syllable as unstressed (indicated below by the ˘ symbol over the word) or stressed (indicated below by the / symbol over the word).

Title of Work: _____

Iambic Pentameter Examples:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

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