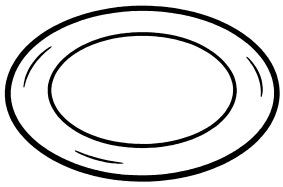
Name _____ Date _____

Prose

Read the tale. Prose is written in sentences and paragraphs.

The Fox and the Crane

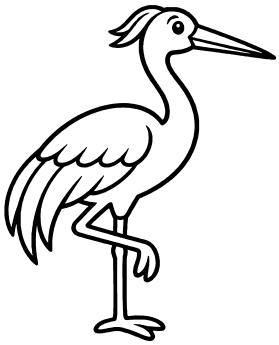




This tale is a fable by Aesop, from ancient Greece. Fox loved playing tricks on the other animals, and he thought that he was the cleverest creature in the forest. One day, he invited Crane to come to his den for supper. Crane was delighted, and she arrived right on time, hungry and curious about what he would serve.

Fox had made a delicious soup, but he served it on two flat plates. Fox lapped up his share in no time, smacking his lips. Crane could only peck at the thin soup with the tip of her long, pointed bill. No matter how hard she tried, she could not get a single sip.

"What a shame you aren't hungry," said Fox with a sly grin. Crane said nothing, but she flew home with an empty stomach and an idea.





A week later, Crane invited Fox to supper. The smell of fish drifted out to meet him as he came up the path, and his mouth watered. But Crane served the meal in two tall jars with long, narrow necks. She slipped her bill into her jar and ate every last bite. Fox could not fit even his nose inside. All he could do was lick the outside of the jar.

"I hope you enjoyed your supper as much as I enjoyed mine last week," said Crane politely. Fox slunk home hungry. He had learned that those who play tricks on others should expect to be tricked themselves.

© 2026 Eggroll Games

Name _____ Date _____

Poems

Read the poem aloud. It is written in verse, in lines and stanzas.

Fox and Crane at Supper

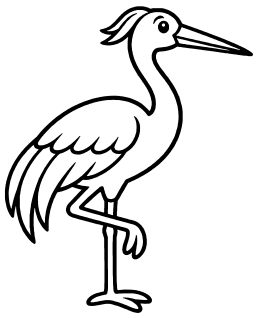
A fox who loved a clever joke
once asked a crane to dine.
"Come share my supper, friend," he said,
"at half past seven, fine?"

He served the soup on two flat plates,
and lapped his own up fast,
while poor Crane pecked and pecked in vain
and left for home at last.

The next week Crane invited Fox.
"Please come," she said, "to me."
She served the fish in two tall jars,
as narrow as could be.

Crane dipped her bill and ate her fill;
Fox licked the jar's outside.
He crept home hungry, tail hung low,
and swallowed down his pride.





© 2026 Eggroll Games

Name _____ Date _____

Plays

Read the play aloud in parts. A play is written to be acted out.

The Fox and the Crane

Cast





Narrator **Fox** **Crane**

(Scene 1: Fox's den, at supper time. Two flat plates of soup sit on a low table.)

Fox: *(bowing)* Welcome, dear Crane! I made my very best soup, just for you.

Crane: How kind of you, Fox. It smells wonderful.

Narrator: Fox laps up his soup in a flash. Crane pecks and pecks at her plate, but her long bill cannot scoop up a drop.

Fox: *(grinning slyly)* What a shame you aren't hungry! More for me, then.

Narrator: Scene 2: Crane's nest, one week later. Two tall jars with narrow necks stand on the table.

Crane: *(sweetly)* Welcome, Fox! I cooked fresh fish, just for you.

Fox: *(sniffing hungrily)* Fish! My favorite!

Narrator: Crane dips her bill into her jar and eats every bite. Fox pushes his nose against the narrow neck, but it will not fit.

Crane: I hope you enjoyed your supper as much as I enjoyed mine last week.

Fox: *(to the audience, with his tail drooping)*
I suppose a trickster should expect to be tricked.

The End

© 2026 Eggroll Games

Name _____ Date _____

Parts of a Poem

Look back at "Fox and Crane at Supper" to answer.

1. A poem is written in verse: in lines, not paragraphs. A group of lines is a stanza. How many stanzas does the poem have?

four **sixteen** **two**

2. In each stanza, which lines rhyme?

lines 1 and 2 lines 1 and 3 lines 2 and 4

3. Rhythm is the beat you hear when you read a poem aloud. Meter is a pattern of beats that repeats. Clap the first line: "a FOX who LOVED a CLEVer JOKE." How many strong beats does it have?

eight **four** **two**

4. The second line has only three strong beats: "once ASKED a CRANE to DINE." Find another line with three strong beats. Write it.

_____

5. The poem leaves out some things the prose tells. Name one detail that is in the prose but not in the poem. Why might a poet leave it out?

_____

_____

_____

© 2026 Eggroll Games

Name _____ Date _____

Parts of a Play

Look back at the play "The Fox and the Crane" to answer.

1. The cast is the list of characters in a play. Who is in the cast but is not a character in the story?

Fox **Crane** **the Narrator**

2. The setting tells where and when a scene takes place. What is the setting of Scene 2?

_____

3. Dialogue is what the characters say. In a play, how can you tell who is speaking?

The speaker's name comes before each line.

The words are in quotation marks.

The narrator says who is talking.

4. Stage directions tell the actors how to move or speak. Copy one stage direction from the play and tell what an actor would do.

_____

_____

5. In the prose, Fox learns his lesson in the narrator's words. How does the play show it instead?

_____

_____

© 2026 Eggroll Games

Name _____ Date _____

Poem, Play or Prose?

Circle where you would find each thing: in a poem, a play or prose.

Some things, like characters and a plot, can be found in all three. Each one below is found mostly in one.

1.	stanzas	**poem**	**play**	**prose**
2.	stage directions in ( )	**poem**	**play**	**prose**
3.	paragraphs	**poem**	**play**	**prose**
4.	a cast of characters	**poem**	**play**	**prose**
5.	lines with rhyme and a steady beat	**poem**	**play**	**prose**
6.	the speaker's name before each line	**poem**	**play**	**prose**
7.	sentences that run to the edge of the page	**poem**	**play**	**prose**
8.	a setting given at the start of each scene	**poem**	**play**	**prose**

9. Which of the three tellings did you like best? Explain what that form did well.

_____

_____

_____

_____

© 2026 Eggroll Games

Name _____ Date _____

Turn Prose into a Play

Choose a scene from a story you have read. Write it as a play.

Title

Cast characters

Setting where and when, in ( )

Dialogue name: words (stage direction)

© 2026 Eggroll Games

Plays

Read the play aloud in parts. A play is written to be acted out.

The Fox and the Crane

Cast





Narrator **Fox** **Crane**

(Scene 1: Fox's den, at supper time. Two flat plates of soup sit on a low table.)

Fox: *(bowing)* Welcome, dear Crane! I made my very best soup, just for you.

Crane: How kind of you, Fox. It smells wonderful.

Narrator: Fox laps up his soup in a flash. Crane pecks and pecks at her plate, but her long bill cannot scoop up a drop.

Fox: *(grinning slyly)* What a shame you aren't hungry! More for me, then.

Narrator: Scene 2: Crane's nest, one week later. Two tall jars with narrow necks stand on the table.

Crane: *(sweetly)* Welcome, Fox! I cooked fresh fish, just for you.

Fox: *(sniffing hungrily)* Fish! My favorite!

Narrator: Crane dips her bill into her jar and eats every bite. Fox pushes his nose against the narrow neck, but it will not fit.

Crane: I hope you enjoyed your supper as much as I enjoyed mine last week.

Fox: *(to the audience, with his tail drooping)*
I suppose a trickster should expect to be tricked.

The End

© 2026 Eggroll Games

Parts of a Poem

Look back at "Fox and Crane at Supper" to answer.

1. A poem is written in verse: in lines, not paragraphs. A group of lines is *a* stanza. How many stanzas does the poem have?

four **sixteen** **two**

2. In each stanza, which lines rhyme?

lines 1 and 2 lines 1 and 3 lines 2 and 4

3. Rhythm is the beat you hear when you read *a* poem aloud. Meter is *a* pattern of beats that repeats. Clap the first line: "*a* FOX who LOVED *a* CLEVer JOKE." How many strong beats does it have?

eight **four** **two**

4. The second line has only three strong beats: "once ASKED *a* CRANE to DINE." Find another line with three strong beats. Write it.

"and lapped his own up fast," (any even-numbered line)

5. The poem leaves out some things the prose tells. Name one detail that is in the prose but not in the poem. Why might *a* poet leave it out?

The prose says Fox thought he was the cleverest creature in the forest. A poem has to fit its rhythm and rhyme, so it keeps only the most important parts.

© 2026 Eggroll Games

Parts of a Play

Look back at the play "The Fox and the Crane" to answer.

1. The cast is the list of characters in a play. Who is in the cast but is not a character in the story?

Fox **Crane** **the Narrator**

2. The setting tells where and when a scene takes place. What is the setting of Scene 2?

Crane's nest, one week later.

3. Dialogue is what the characters say. In a play, how can you tell who is speaking?

The speaker's name comes before each line.

The words are in quotation marks.

The narrator says who is talking.

4. Stage directions tell the actors how to move or speak. Copy one stage direction from the play and tell what an actor would do.

(grinning slyly): the actor playing Fox would smile in a sneaky way while saying the line.

5. In the prose, Fox learns his lesson in the narrator's words. How does the play show it instead?

Fox says it himself, "to the audience, with his tail drooping": "I suppose a trickster should expect to be tricked."

© 2026 Eggroll Games

Poem, Play or Prose?

Circle where you would find each thing: in a poem, a play or prose.

Some things, like characters and a plot, can be found in all three. Each one below is found mostly in one.

1.	stanzas	**(poem)**	**play**	**prose**
2.	stage directions in ( )	**poem**	**(play)**	**prose**
3.	paragraphs	**poem**	**play**	**(prose)**
4.	a cast of characters	**poem**	**(play)**	**prose**
5.	lines with rhyme and a steady beat	**(poem)**	**play**	**prose**
6.	the speaker's name before each line	**poem**	**(play)**	**prose**
7.	sentences that run to the edge of the page	**poem**	**play**	**(prose)**
8.	a setting given at the start of each scene	**poem**	**(play)**	**prose**

9. Which of the three tellings did you like best? Explain what that form did well.

The play, because the stage directions show how Fox and Crane feel, and it can be acted out.

© 2026 Eggroll Games