

# Writing poetry ! [an activity found at <http://home.online.no/~anlun/>]

All you have to do is to follow the recipe carefully.

1. On the first line write a **noun** of your choice.
2. On the second line write **two adjectives** joined by **and** to describe this noun.
3. On the third line write a **verb** and an **adverb** to describe this noun in **action**.
4. Start the fourth line with **like** or **as** followed by a **comparison**.
5. Start the final line with **if only** followed by a **wish** (un souhait).

Below is an example of such a poem (written by a Norwegian pupil):

Politician  
phoney and false  
lying desperately  
like a mocking bird  
if only I had the key to the bird cage

→ But first a grammatical brush-up!

**LIKE** and **AS** are both used to say that things are similar, but ...

LIKE is a preposition used before a noun or a pronoun.	AS is a conjunction, used before subject + verb or a prepositional expression	AS can be used as a preposition before a noun or pronoun to talk about the jobs, roles and functions of people and things
He runs LIKE the wind She looks LIKE me	Nobody knows her AS I do. On Fridays, AS on Mondays, we meet at eight.	He worked AS a waiter for a year. Don't use your plate AS an ashtray.

**LIKE or AS ?**

1. His eyes are _____ knives.	6. She left _____ she came, silently.
2. _____ I said, you're too late.	7. _____ your brother, I must warn you to be careful. (I am your brother).
3. This bread tastes _____ cardboard.	8. _____ your brother, I must warn you to be careful. (Me and your brother warn you).
4. My brother isn't at all _____ me.	
5. Clinton must learn to behave _____ a president.	

**WISH** and **IF ONLY** are used in structures which express regrets and wishes for unlikely or impossible things (note the use of the past form).

He is poor → "I WISH I were rich." He doesn't speak French → "I WISH I spoke French."	We can't fly → "Don't you WISH you could fly?" I don't have many friends → "IF ONLY I knew more people!"
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He smokes →	She worked on Sundays →
I haven't got a car →	I'm not hard-working →