

Work with a partner to fill in each blank and create an original poem.

"Fill in the Blank" Verse for Adults

Dost thou want to partake in a poetry game? Then we've got the perfect activity for you.

First print out this sheet. Then get a partner and ask for the parts of speech you see below. But don't let them see the page! When the blanks have all been filled in, read your new poem out loud. You'll have put a new spin on an old classic.

In Xanadu did _____
(person's name)

A stately pleasure-dome decree:

Where _____ the sacred river, _____
(proper noun) (verb past tense)

Through _____ measureless to man
(noun)

Down to a _____ _____,
(adjective) (noun)

So twice five miles of fertile _____
(noun)

_____ walls and towers were girdled round:
(preposition)

_____ here were gardens bright with _____ rills
(conjunction) (adjective)

Where _____ many an incense-bearing _____.
(verb past tense) (noun)

And now for the original. From "Kubla Khan" by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

In Xanadu did Kubla Khan
A stately pleasure-dome decree:
Where Alph, the sacred river, ran
Through caverns measureless to man
Down to a sunless sea.

So twice five miles of fertile ground
With walls and towers were girdled round:
And here were gardens bright with sinuous rills
Where blossomed many an incense-bearing tree.