

## Spotlight on Rhyme

In Lesson 6, you learned about rhyme scheme. In this spotlight, you will focus on songs where rhyme schemes differ between the verses and the chorus. For example, a song could have an “AABB” rhyme scheme in the verses but an “ABAB” rhyme scheme in the chorus. This creates added contrast between the verses and the chorus.

**Note:** Even if the rhyme scheme differs between the verses and the chorus, the rhyme scheme of the verses will usually stay the same. For example, if the rhyme scheme of verse 1 is “ABAB,” then it will probably also be the rhyme scheme of verses 2 and 3.

### EXAMPLE

Notice how the lyrics of “Wide Open Spaces” follow an “AABB” rhyme scheme in all the verses, but an “ABAB” rhyme scheme in the chorus. As you read or listen to the lyrics, do you notice a greater contrast between the verses and the chorus because of the change? Locate the The Chicks recording and listen to how the rhymes are sung.



*The Chicks, Emily Robison, Natalie Maines, and Martie Maguire (from left), have drawn on their Texas roots when choosing and composing songs. “Wide Open Spaces,” written by Susan Gibson, conveys the feelings of leaving your hometown behind.*

## Wide Open Spaces

*Susan Gibson*

Who doesn't know what I'm talking about	A
Who's never left home, who's never struck out	A
To find a dream and a life of their own	B
A place in the clouds, a foundation of stone	B
Many precede and many will follow	A
A young girl's dream no longer hollow	A
It takes the shape of a place out west	B
But what it holds for her, she hasn't yet guessed	B
She needs wide open spaces	A
Room to make her big mistakes	B
She needs new faces	A
She knows the high stakes	B
She traveled this road as a child	A
Wide eyed and grinning, she never tired	A
But now she won't be coming back with the rest	B
If these are life's lessons, she'll take this test	B
She needs wide open spaces	A
Room to make her big mistakes	B
She needs new faces	A
She knows the high stakes	B
(She knows the high stakes)	B
As her folks drive away, her dad yells, "Check the oil!"	A
Mom stares out the window and says, "I'm leaving my girl"	A
She said, "It didn't seem like that long ago"	B
When she stood there and let her own folks know	B
She needed wide open spaces	A
Room to make her big mistakes	B
She needs new faces	A
She knows the high stakes	B

### ACTIVITY

Analyze the verses and choruses of a few of your favorite songs. What are the rhyme schemes they use? Do their verses have different rhyme schemes from the chorus?

Write a song that follows the same rhyme scheme as one of your favorite songs.