

List Poem of Prepositional Phrases



Jean-Étienne Liotard
Swiss, Geneva, about 1781–1783
Still Life: Tea Set
Oil on canvas mounted on board
14⁷/₈ x 20⁵/₁₆ in.
84.PA.57

To write a **list poem**, start with a still life or another work of art that depicts many people or objects. Describe what you see in a list of prepositional phrases, such as *under the ____ / next to the ____ / in a ____ / beyond the ____*.

Don't be afraid to repeat words—repetition will give the poem **rhythm**. Add a line that will surprise a reader, for example, by revealing what you would do if you were in the work of art (e.g., *over the bread / my hand hovers*).