1. **Two Syllable Poetic Rhythm Examples**

**Iambic (U / ):** That **time** of **year** thou **mayst** in **me** be**hold**

behold, amuse, arise, awake, return, Noel, depict, destroy, inject, inscribe, insist, employ, "to be," inspire, unwashed, "Of Mice and Men," "the South will rise again."

**Trochaic (/ U): Tell** me **not** in **mourn**ful **num**bers

happy, hammer, Pittsburgh, nugget, double, incest, injure, roses,hippie, bubba, beat it, clever, dental, dinner, shatter, pitcher,Cleveland, chosen, planet, chorus, widow, bladder, cuddle, slacker,doctor, Memphis, "Doctor Wheeler," "Douglas County," market, picket

**Spondaic (/ /): Break**, **break**, **break**/ On thy **cold** **gray** **stones**, O **Sea**!

The spondee is usually used to break up another foot such as the anapest. The example below is from Gerard Manley Hopkins' "Pied Beauty." The second line is marked by Hopkins to note the spondee:

EX: "Landscape plotted and pieced--fold, fallow, and plough;

And áll trádes, their gear and tackle and trim."

EX:

**Lepanto  
by: G. K. Chesterton**

**White founts falling** in the **courts** of the **sun**   
And the **Sol**dan of By**zan**tium is **smi**ling as they **run**

football, Mayday, D-Day, heartbreak, Key West, shortcake, plopplop, fizz-fizz, drop-dead, dead man, dumbbell, childhood, goofoff, race-track, bathrobe, black hole, breakdown, love-song

I'll TELL / you the NAME / of my FRIEND / and his NAME / is ANDy / BATHGATE.  
  
-That's a mixture of feet. It opens with an iamb da-DUM and then we get three anapaests in a row, da-da-DUM / da-da-DUM / da-da-DUM, and then we get an odd one that is da-DUM-da, and then we get your spondee, DUM-DUM.

**Three Syllable Poetic Rhythm Examples**

**Anapestic (UU /):** And the **sound** of a **voice** that is **still**

Very few poems consist of a strict anapestic foot. Some such poems that are written in anapestic foot are Lord Byron's "The Destruction Of Sennacherib," as well as Will Cowper's "Verses Supposed To Be Written By Alexander Selkirk, During His Solitary Abode In The Island Of San Fernandez:"

U U / U U / U U /

From the centre all round to the sea,

U U / U U / U U /

I am lord of the fowl and the brute.

understand, interrupt, comprehend, anapest, New Rochelle, contradict, "get a life," Coeur d'Alene, "In the blink of an eye"

In my KITchen is LYing a DOG in her BED

In the GARden are WAITing four DUCKS for their BREAD

On the HILLtop is GRAZing a SHEEP with black HORNS

When the POSTman arRIVES with a PARcel for ME

In the MIDST of the TRAFfic is MUM in her CAR

Dr. Seuss' Yertle the Turtle

On the far-away Island of Sala-ma-Sond,

Mertle the Turtle was king of the pond.

A nice little pond. It was clean. It was neat.

The water was warm. There was plenty to eat.

The turtles had everything turtles might need.

And they were all happy. Quite happy indeed.

**Dactylic (/ UU): This** is the **for**est pri**me**val, the **mur**muring **pines** and the **hem**lock

(a trochee replaces the final dactyl)

Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade" is one of the most popular poems written in dactylic foot:

/ U U / U U

Half a league, half a league

/ U U / U

Half a league onward,

strawberry, carefully, changeable, merrily, mannequin, tenderly, prominent, buffalo, Bellingham, bitterly, notable, horrible, glycerin, parable, scorpion, Indianapolis, Jefferson

**EX: The Charge of the Light Brigade  
by  
Alfred, Lord Tennyson**

Half a league, half a league,  
Half a league onward,  
All in the valley of Death  
Rode the six hundred.  
"Forward, the Light Brigade!  
"Charge for the guns!" he said:  
Into the valley of Death  
Rode the six hundred.

**Half** a League**, Half** a League**, Half** a League**, on**ward