Learning about Limericks:

A limerick is a type of humorous poem with a five lines. It has a specific rhythm and rhyme scheme. Here are some examples of limericks by Edward Lear.

There was an Old Person of Chili, Whose conduct was painful and silly; He sat on the stairs, Eating apples and pears, That imprudent Old Person of Chili. There was a Young Lady of Norway, Who casually sat in a doorway; When the door squeezed her flat, She exclaimed, "What of that?" This courageous Young Lady of Norway.

Identify the rhythm and rhyme scheme in the limericks above. Put a letter in the blank for words that rhyme. Use the letter A to represent the first group of sounds, the letter B to represent the second, etc. To determine the rhythm, put an ictus (/) over the sounds that are stressed and put a breve (^) over unstressed sounds.

There was an Old Person of Chili,	A	There was a Young Lady of Norway,	
Whose conduct was painful and silly;	A	Who casually sat in a doorway;	A
He sat on the stairs,	В	When the door squeezed her flat,	В
Eating apples and pears,	В	She exclaimed, "What of that?"	В
That imprudent Old Person of Chili.	_ A _	This courageous Young Lady of Norway.	_ A _

Now try writing a limerick yourself. Fill in the blanks of the following lines with words that will match the limerick rhyme scheme.

Examples of a correct answer

There once was a boy in the _	town
Who wanted to go be a	clown
He traveled bycar	
To become a bigstar	
That curious boy in the	town