

English

This week we will be focusing on:

- how poets use language and themes for comic and dramatic effects
- the impact of rhyme in performance poetry
- SPAG

I can write a poem about visiting the Caribbean.

- Read aloud the Grace Nichols poem My Gran on next page
- Then listen to her advice to young poets on how to write a poem:

[https://vimeo.com › CLPE › Videos](https://vimeo.com/CLPE/Videos)

My Gran was a Caribbean lady
As Caribbean as could be
She came across to visit us
In Shoreham by the sea.

She'd hardly put her suitcase down
when she began a digging spree
Out in the back garden
To see what she could see

And she found:
That the ground was as groundy
That the frogs were as froggy
That the earthworms were as worthy

That the weeds were as weedy
That the seeds were as seedy
That the bees were as busy
as those back home

And she paused from her digging
And she wondered
And she looked at her spade
And she pondered|

Then she stood by a rose
As a slug passed by her toes
And she called to my Dad
as she struck pose after pose,

'Boy, come and take my photo – the place cold,
But wherever there's God's earth, I'm at home.'

MY GRAN visits England by Grace Nichols

What makes this a poem
rather than a piece of text?
Look at the loose rhyme
scheme, the short lines, the
stanzas grouped in lines of
four.

What is a loose rhyme

scheme?: A rhyme scheme is the
pattern of rhymes at the end of each
line of a poem or song.

Task 1

- List/underline all rhyming words
- Take note of the: the loose rhyme scheme, the short lines, the stanzas grouped in lines of four.
- What is the theme in this poem?

Task 2

Write **one – three verses of this poem** but set in the opposite direction – this time of someone going from **your town in London** to a place in the Caribbean e.g. My Gran visits Barbados, perhaps.

A. Give your poem a title

B. Think about what you already know about the Caribbean and choose a theme for your verse.

Your theme could be: **the weather, the food, the clothes, the landscape, the people or the sea.**

C. Make sure each of your **verse only has 4 lines.**

Ideas for your theme



Weather

Food



People



Clothes



Landscape