**Refrain Poetry Assignment**

**Definition of Refrain Poetry**

The word 'Refrain' derives from the Old French word refraindre meaning to repeat. A Refrain is a verse or phrase that is repeated at intervals throughout a song or poem, usually after the [stanza](http://www.youngwriters.co.uk/stanza.php).

<http://www.types-of-poetry.org.uk/37-refrain-poetry-type.htm>

http://www.youngwriters.co.uk/refrain.php

**Examples**

“Dreams” by Langston Hughes

Hold fast to dreams
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird
That cannot fly.
Hold fast to dreams
For when dreams go
Life is a barren field
Frozen with snow.

“Drums” by Johnny Cash

From the Indian reservation to the governmental school
Well they're goin' to educate me to the white men's Golden Rule
And I'm learning very quickly for I've learned to be ashamed
And I come when they call Billy though I've got an Indian name

And there are drums beyond the mountain

 Indian drums that you can't hear
There are drums beyond the mountain

and they're getting mighty near

When they think that they'd changed me cut my hair to meet their needs
Will they think I'm white or Indian quarter blood or just half breed
Let me tell you Mr teacher when you say you'll make me right
In five hundred years of fighting not one Indian turned white

And there are drums beyond the mountain

 Indian drums that you can't hear
There are drums beyond the mountain

and they're getting mighty near

Well you thought that I knew nothing when you brought me here to school
Just another empty Indian just America's first fool
But now I can tell you stories that are burnt and dried and old
But in the shadow of their telling walks the thunder proud and bold

And there are drums beyond the mountain

 Indian drums that you can't hear
There are drums beyond the mountain

and they're getting mighty near

The cat so silent
Lay curled up on the rug
The fire a blaze
The room so snug.

Purring, purring
Quiet and still
Purring, purring
Content from his fill.

Tatters the cat
Big, fat cat.

He had just eaten
A dinner of fish
What a treat to have
Filling up his dish.

Purring, purring
Quiet and still
Purring, purring
Content from his fill.

Tatters the cat
Big, fat cat.