

Science Gnus and Clerihews

- Just finished reading and enjoying *The Mother Tongue - English and How it Got That Way* by Bill Bryson

In his chapter on Word Play he describes a *Clerihews* - named for an English journalist, E. Clerihews Bently who invented them. A *clerihews* is pithy poem that always starts with someone's name and in just 4 lines purports to convey the salient facts of the subjects life.

- To wit
- Sir Humphrey Davy
Detested Gravy
He lived in the odium
Of inventing sodium

Science Gnus and Clerihews

- Marie Curie
- Albert Einstein
- Thomas Edison
- Alexander Graham Bell
- George Washington Carver
- Gregor Mendel
- Ivan Pavlov
- Isaac Newton
- Niels Bohr
- Edwin Hubble
- James Hutton

For a Clerihew:

Line 1 – Scientist name

Line 2 – ends in rhyme with last name

Line 3 – Sets up the rhyme with line 4

Line 4 – ends in word associated with the scientist

Ex. Old James Hutton
Was cute as a button
But oh what a shock
That he studied a rock