Examples 1a–1d.

“I love Cali like I love women
’Cause every nigga in L.A. got a little bit of thug in him
We might fight amongst each other
But I promise you this: we’ll burn this bitch down
Get us pissed, to live and die in L.A.”


“You can’t harm me, alarm me
‘Cause we’re the generals in this fucking hip-hop army.
The niggas wit attitudes if you didn’t know
We blow, flow and getting loose from the get-go, yo.”

N.W.A., “Real Niggaz” (1991)

“We from a different street, all got that different heat
But when we move the Mac when Game come, we on the same beat.
So if you fuck with Blood, then you fuck with us
And we ain’t busting duds, cause we busting slugs”


“Ahh, rollin’ in my posse, was getting’ kinda bored
There’s not another posse with more points scored
We don’t walk around like criminals or flex like big gorillas
My homeboy Kid sensation is a teenage lady killa.
Maharaji’s on the def side dancin’ like a freak,
The girlies see his booty and their knees get weak,
Larry is the white guy people think he’s funny.
A real estate investor who makes a lot of money.”

Sir Mix-a-lot, “Posse on Broadway” (1988)
Example 2. A transcribed excerpt of Busta Rhymes’s performance in “#TWERKIT” (2013)

Example 2b

Motive A
Example 3. A transcribed excerpt of Nicki Minaj’s guest verse in Busta Rhymes’s track “#TWERKIT”

Figure 2. Data was compiled using numerous webpages on Billboard.com depending on the year.
Example 4a. Run’s verse in Run-D.M.C.’s “I’m Not Going Out Like That.”

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Run's Groove

Com-in' off, time and time and that's whether You, your crew knew, whatever, I

I'm this clever I come again and win, and you'll never

See a man like me, your idol, So joke, smoke, toke, but this title, the

Rhyme is mine, fine and so vital it's time for me to rock my recital, Gon-na

tell you about a groove that's com-in from the heart in part and just one in a

mil-lion or you will be bum-min. So check the time the rhyme that comes from it. In-

side your brain remain so just keep it Plain, sane refrain so just peep it

Look, see it check, but never stop it, the hook comes next, so Jay drop it!
```

Example 4b. The principal rhythmic motive of the track “I’m Not Going Out Like That” (1988)

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Motive B
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Example 5. D.M.C.’s verse in “I’m Not Going Out Like That”

Got-ta go Joe ya know to the T-O-P and see D you know we know, the
way to-day I say I'm not a Le-o, the king is D and Jay the Scor-pi-o. The
sign of mine is wild, keep grinnin' This half style is wild and I'm winnin'
Roll, stroll, control and I'm cool-in', the king of rock and roll and I'm rul-in', I
rock, shock, get stopped, and I'm drop-pin', I pop hip hop I'm hip hop-pin', re
ceive a G for Lee while I'm throw-in', it's D ya see, it's me I'm not go in',
Example 6. The Final verse of “I’m Not Going Out Like That,” performed by both Run and D.M.C. in unison

Run and D.M.C.

1. Munch, crunch us, you gotta take us out we're hotter

2. Team is mean, a lot ta work involved, we're smarter

3. Dee, Jay, Run, no jokin', hot as hell, we're smokin'

4. Punks rough toughs we're yokin', news is crude, are chookin'

5. Out like that, not goin', in like men, we're growin'

6. Chance to dance, not blowin', go to show, don't roll in

7. Don't you know, we're sayin', here to show, not playin'

8. Here's the jam, respect it, time to end this record!

Example 8. A transcribed excerpt of Dove’s verse in the track “D.A.I.S.Y. Age”

Example 10. A transcribed excerpt from Wyclef Jean’s verse in “How Many Mics”
Example 11. A transcribed excerpt from Pras’s verse in “How Many Mics”

Example 12. The first of the only two rhyme schemes employed by rapper 50 Cent in the entirety of his track “Blood Hound” (2003)
Example 13. The second of the two rhyme schemes employed by 50 Cent in “Blood Hound”

Example 14. A transcribed excerpt of Young Buck’s guest verse in “Blood Hound”

Example 15. Young Buck imitates 50 Cent’s delivery, and employs the same rhyme scheme as shown in Example 12
Example 16a. Motive C

Example 16b. A transcribed excerpt from Dr. Dre’s first verse in “Forgot About Dre,” exemplifying his reliance on Motive C (bracketed in orange)

Example 17. An exemplary framed rhyme scheme in Dr. Dre’s first verse of “Forgot About Dre”

Example 18a. Eminem’s alteration to Motive C forms Motive D

Example 18b. Eminem’s reliance on Motive D during his guest verse in “Forgot About Dre”
Example 19. Eminem’s development of Dr. Dre’s framed rhyme scheme (see Example 17)

Example 20. Another Example of Eminem’s development of Dr. Dre’s framed rhyme scheme (see Example 17)

Example 21. Examples of the limerick throughout history

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hickory dickory dock</th>
<th>A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The mouse ran up the clock</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The clock struck one, the mouse ran down, Hickory dickory dock</td>
<td>B B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There once was a man from Nantucket</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who kept all of his cash in a bucket</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>But his daughter, named Nan, ran away with a man</td>
<td>B B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And as for the bucket, Nantucket</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I don’t give a fuck if it’s dark or not</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I’m harder than me tryin’ to park a Dodge</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When I’m drunk as fuck, right next to a humongous truck In a two-car garage</td>
<td>B B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Example 22. A transcribed excerpt from the third verse of “Forgot About Dre” shows Dr. Dre’s reliance on Eminem’s Motive D

\[\begin{align*}
\text{If it was up to me, you'd all motherfuckers would stop comin' up to me with your hands out lookin' up to me like you want somethin' free when my last C.D. was out, you wasn't bumpin' me but now that I got this lil' company, everybody wanna come to me like it was some disease, but you won't get a crumb from me, 'cause I'm from the streets of (Compton)}
\end{align*}\]

Example 23. Dr. Dre’s appropriation of Eminem’s “limerick” rhyme scheme

\[\begin{align*}
\text{I told 'em all the little gangstas, who you think helped mold 'em all. Now you wanna run around talkin' bout guns like I ain't got none, what, you think I told 'em all?}
\end{align*}\]

Example 24. Dr. Dre’s appropriation of Eminem’s “limerick” rhyme scheme, with the characteristic rhythmic contrast in the interior couplet (highlighted in gray)

\[\begin{align*}
\text{Stay well off now all I get is hate mail all day sayin' Dre fell off, what, cause I been in the lab with a pen and a pad, tries to get thisDamn lab off?}
\end{align*}\]
Example 25.