

Name

Date

Handout 2-F

Types of Literature in the Old Testament

Literature Type	Example
<i>Poetry</i>	Book of Psalms
Work Song	Numbers 21:17–18
Harvest Song	Judges 9:27; 21:21
Marriage and Love Songs	Song of Songs 4:1–10; 5:10–16
Song of Victory	1 Samuel 18:6–7
The Lament (individual and political)	2 Samuel 1:19–27
The Mocking Song	Isaiah 14:4–21
<i>Poetic Stories</i>	
Saga	Genesis 3:13–15
Legend	Joshua 5:13–6:27
Parable	2 Samuel 12:1–4
Anecdote	Judges 15:1–7
<i>Historical Literature</i>	
Recording of History	1 Kings 9:10–28
Speeches	1 Samuel 12
Letters	Jeremiah 29:4–23
<i>Prophetic Literature</i>	Isaiah
<i>Wisdom Literature</i>	Proverbs
<i>Laws</i>	
Ten Commandments	Exodus 20:1–17
Priestly Laws	Leviticus
The Holiness Code	Leviticus 17–27
Deuteronomic Code	Deuteronomy 12–26