

My favourite riddle is by Lewis Carroll. Even when I knew the answer, I found it difficult to work out why. It goes:

Dreaming of apples on the wall,
Dreaming often dear.
I dreamed that if I counted all,
How many would appear?

The next two are ones I wrote myself. They're the type you used to get in kid's puzzle books when there was such a thing as kid's puzzle books. They're an easy structure to replicate and might fun for kids to write.

My first is table but never in chair,
My second's in Yogi but never in bear.
My third's not in summer but found in the fall,
My fourth is in smaller but never in tall.
My fifth is in selling but never in buys,
My whole gets wetter the more that it dries.
What am I?

My first is in messy but never in clean,
My second in missing but never in seen.
My third is in length and also in long,
My fourth in the singer but not in the song.
My fifth is in dentures but never in bite,
My sixth is in black but never in white.
My seventh's in plenty but also in none,
And my whole?
When you say me, I've already gone.
What am I?