

Elements of Poetry

Poetry uses rhythms and sounds of words as well as their meanings to set the imagination in motion.

1. **Poetry**- a type of literature that uses sounds, rhythms, and meanings of words to describe the world in striking and imaginative ways.
2. **Lines**- groups of words in a poem
3. **Stanzas**- units of meaning that organize the lines of a poem.
4. **Refrain**- a line or group of lines that is repeated at regular intervals in a poem.
5. **Variations**- changing one or more words with each repetition.
6. **Rhythm**- the repetition of vowel and consonant sound at the ends of words, as in tin and pin
7. **Meter**- the rhythmical pattern in a poem.
8. **Feet**- units of stressed and unstressed syllables.
9. **Rhyme**- the repetition of sounds at the ends of words, as in speech and teach.
10. **Denotation**- literal, dictionary definition
11. **Connotation**- consists of ideas and feelings that the word brings to mind.
12. **Rhyme Scheme**- the ordered pattern of rhymes at the ends of the lines of a poem or verse.

Figurative Language

1. **Metaphor**- describes one things as if it were something else.
Ex: My chores were a mountain waiting to be climbed.
2. **Personification**- gives human qualities to something that is not human.
Ex: The cars growled in traffic.
3. **Similes**- uses like or as to compare two apparently unlike things.
Ex: He stormed into the meeting like a tornado.
4. **Symbols**- anything that represents something else.
Ex: A dove is a common symbol for peace.

Sound Devices

1. **Alliteration**-the repetition of consonant sounds in the beginning of words, as in slippery slope.
2. **Repetition**- the use of any element of language- a sound, word, phrase, clause, or sentence- more than once.
3. **Assonance**- the repetition of vowel sounds followed by different consonants in stressed syllables, as in blade and maze.
4. **Consonance**- the repetition of similar consonant sounds at the end of accented syllables, as in wind and sand.
5. **Onomatopoeia**- the use of words that imitate sounds (crash, bang, hiss)

Types of Poems

1. **Narrative**- tells a story in verse. Narrative poems have elements similar to those in short stories, such as plot and characters.
2. **Haiku**- a three-line Japanese form that describes something in nature. The first and third lines each have five syllables, and the second line has seven.
3. **Free Verse**- poetry defined by its lack of structure. It has no regular meter, rhyme, fixed line length, or specific stanza pattern.
4. **Lyric**- poetry expresses the thoughts and feelings of a single speaker, often in highly musical verse.
5. **Ballads**- songlike poems that tell stories. They often deal with adventure or romance.
6. **Concrete**- poems that are shaped to look like their subjects. The poet arranges the lines to create a picture on the page.
7. **Limericks**- humorous, rhyming five-line poems with a specific rhythm and rhyme scheme.
8. **Rhyming Couplets**- pairs of rhyming lines, usually of the same meter and length
9. **Elegy**- a lyric poem that expresses sadness over a death or the passing of time.
10. **Ode**- a lyric poem that praises an important person.
11. **Sonnet**- fourteen line poem