

Poetry Terms



Alliteration Chorus Adjective Synonym
Prose Couplet Simile Rhyme Stanza
Onomatopoeia Repetition
Adjective Syllables
Hyperbole Consonance
Synonym Assonance Chorus
Metaphor Alliteration Oxymoron

Poetry

There are many different types of poem including:

acrostic

sonnet

epic

blank verse

simile

colour

tetractys

pantoum

diamante

ballad

haiku

echo verse

limerick

renga

kenning

riddle

shape

cinquain

ode

free verse

tyburn

senryu

lyric

tanka

Adjective Poetry

Adjectives are describing words. They are used in poetry to create many different effects and visual pictures to the reader. The adjectives can be used for a more in-depth description of a noun, or they can be used to add more excitement and attention within a line or verse.

Some examples of effective adjectives:

Roaring roads,

Noisy cars,

Beaming headlights,

Tall streetlamps,

Dark, cold night.

Couplet Poetry

A couplet is a pair of lines. These two lines typically rhyme together. They are also the same length due to same number of syllables present.

Couplets are used in poetry in order to create a rhyming flow.

Some examples of couplets within poems:

**It's hard to see the butterfly,
As it flies across the night sky.**

**I made the biscuits one by one,
I'm waiting for the bell, they're done.**

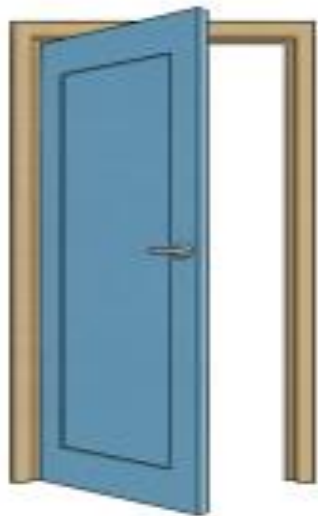
**Lightning, thunder all around,
So much rains falls to the ground.**

Using Onomatopoeia

Onomatopoeia is when a word imitates its natural sound, or suggests the sound a certain object makes. It is used in poetry to create a sound effect to make the description more expressive and interesting.

Some examples of onomatopoeia:

bang
crash
pop
smash
drip



buzz
tick tock
whoosh
wham
pow

Alliteration

Alliteration is when the sound or letter at the beginning of each or most of the words in a sentence is the same.

Alliteration is used in poetry to create many different effects. It can be used to create a greater and more interesting description of different themes, people and objects.

Some examples of alliteration:

Sally sells sea shells by the sea shore.

All authors allow authority after midnight.

Theresa tripped and tumbled tremendously over the tree.



Rhyme

Rhyme occurs when two words sound the same when spoken out loud.

These words usually have the same ending sounds,
however they don't need to be spelt the same.

Rhyme is used in poetry to create something interesting to read.

It is used to create a pattern within a poem.

Some examples of rhyme:

Fright and night

Would hood

Should could

Hail and pale

Male and stale

Air and fare

Two and do

Day and sway

Pause and claws

Bears and stairs



Simile

A simile is a figure of speech. It is when one thing is compared to another using the words 'like' or 'as'.

Similes can be as descriptive as the writer chooses.

Similes are used in poetry to give the reader a more descriptive and in-depth understanding about a particular object or person.

Some examples of simile:

As busy as a bee – This is comparing someone's level of energy to the speed of a bee.

As snug as a bug in a rug – This is comparing someone who is very cosy to how comfortable a bug would be in a rug.

Runs like a cheetah – This is comparing the speed that someone can run to the speed of a cheetah which is quite fast.

As white as a ghost – This is comparing a person's skin colour to a ghost, usually because they are frightened, sick or scared of something.

Synonym

A synonym is a word that has the same, or similar, meaning as another word. Synonyms can be found in a thesaurus.

Synonyms are used in poetry to be more graphic and to give a broader description.

Some examples of synonyms:

Beautiful – attractive, pretty, gorgeous, stunning

Funny – hysterical, humorous, amusing, entertaining

Student – pupil, scholar, schoolboy, schoolgirl

Lazy – idle, sluggish, indolent, slothful



Metaphor

A metaphor is a figure of speech which describes a place, object or subject as something unlikely and uncommon.

Metaphors are used in poetry to create an image of judgement and comparison in the mind of the reader.

Some examples of metaphor:

Her eyes were glistening jewels.

She is the sunshine which brightens up our day.

The kids at school are all brains.

In Andrew's eyes, Rebecca is the sun.

He is my knight in shining armour.

The world is a stage.



Stanza

A stanza is a group of lines gathered together by rhythmical pattern and meter. A stanza with four or more lines can be referred to as a verse. The length and pattern of a stanza decides what type of poem it is. Stanzas are made by leaving a blank space before and after it.

Two lines = Couplet

Three lines = Tercet

Four lines = Quatrain

Five lines = Cinquain

Stanzas are used in poetry to provide structure and form.

Some examples of stanzas:



I love to dance,
I love to prance.
What my heart would do,
But be sad and blue,
If I could not dance.

First Stanza

Dancing feels nice,
But it come at a price.
Dancing tutus and shoes
My gosh you can't lose!

Second Stanza

Rhymed Verse

Poetry written in a metrical form that rhymes throughout.

An example of rhymed verse:

I hear the people **sing**,
To the glory of the **king**.
He sits up on his great big **chair**,
To watch everybody just sit and **stare**.



This poem has four lines.