

Poetry Terms: Reference Page

TERM	DEFINITION	EXAMPLE
Alliteration	Repetition of <u>CONSONANT</u> sounds at the <u>BEGINNING</u> of words. It gives <u>EMPHASIS</u> to words.	The <i>ruby red rose</i> fell to the ground.
Form	A poem's <u>APPEARANCE</u> .	A concrete poem
Imagery	Description that allows a reader to <u>SEE</u> , hear, <u>SMELL</u> , <u>FEEL</u> , and taste the scene described in the work.	from "Preludes" by T.S. Eliot: smell of steaks, gusty shower, withered leaves
Metaphor/ Simile	Comparing two <u>UNLIKE</u> things <u>WITHOUT</u> Using "like" or "as" Comparing two <u>UNLIKE</u> things <u>USING</u> "like" or "as"	Her hair is the sun. Her hair is like the sun.
Onomatopoeia	Use of a word or phrase that actually <u>IMITATES</u> or suggests the <u>SOUND</u> of what is being described.	buzz, pop, bang
Personification	An <u>ANIMAL</u> , object or <u>IDEA</u> is given <u>HUMAN</u> form or characteristics.	<i>Awakening</i> to the risen sun, the <i>rested</i> trees <i>stretched</i> their limbs heavenward.
Repetition	When a poet uses the <u>SAME</u> words or phrases <u>OVER</u> and <u>OVER</u> .	from "Apologize" by One Republic: "It's too late to apologize."
Rhyme Scheme	The <u>PATTERN</u> of a poem that uses <u>END</u> <u>RHYME</u> .	weep see keep thee A B A B
Rhythm	The <u>PATTERN</u> created by the arrangement of <u>STRESSED</u> and <u>UNSTRESSED</u> syllables.	"The Pasture" by Robert Frost (uses punc. to create pauses, along with rhyme scheme)
Stanza	A <u>GROUP</u> of lines forming a unit in a poem. Stanzas are the <u>PARAGRAPHS</u> of a poem.	All poems have stanzas.
Symbol	When a person, a <u>PLACE</u> , an <u>OBJECT</u> or an action stands for something else.	Owl = wise Horseshoe = lucky
Theme	A poem's <u>CENTRAL</u> or <u>MAIN</u> idea that gives insight about life or human nature.	"Please Mrs. Butler": Theme - Don't rely on others to solve your problems.
Narrative Poetry	Poem that <u>TELLS</u> <u>A</u> <u>STORY</u> .	"John Barleycorn" by Robert Burns
Free Verse	Poetry that has <u>NO</u> <u>FIXED</u> pattern, meter, <u>RHYME</u> , line length or <u>STANZA</u> arrangement.	"Fog" by Carl Sandburg