

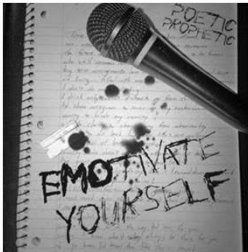
# Poetry



## Differs from prose by

- More expressive diction
- Punctuation
- More CONCISE/PRECISE language and syntax
- Stanzas not paragraphs
- Implements the use of poetic devices and figurative language more prevalently

## POETRY



➤ A type of literature that expresses ideas, feelings, or tells a story in a specific form (usually using lines and stanzas)

## Example of Prose and Poetry Versions

### Prose version:

A woman stands on a mountain top with the cold seeping into her body. She looks on the valley below as the window whips around her. She cannot leave to go to the peaceful beauty below. In the valley, the sun shines from behind the clouds causing flowers to bloom. A breeze sends quivers through the leaves of trees. The water gurgles in a brook. All the woman can do is cry.

### Poetry version

The Woman on the Peak

The woman stands upon the barren peak,  
Gazing down on the world beneath.  
The lonely chill seeps from the ground  
Into her feet, spreading, upward bound.  
The angry wind whistles 'round her head,  
Whipping her hair into streaming snakes,  
While she watches, wishes, weakly wails.  
Beyond the mountain, sunshine peeks,  
Teasing flowers to survive and thrive.  
The breeze whispers through the leaves,  
Causing gentle quivers to sway the trees.  
Laughter gurgles as the splashing brook  
Playfully tumbles over rugged rocks,  
While the woman above can only grieve.



## Poetry consists of

- Figurative language
- Verses
- Colorful words



## POINT OF VIEW IN POETRY

POET

SPEAKER

- The poet is the author of the poem.
- The speaker of the poem is the "narrator" of the poem.

## POETRY FORM

- FORM - the appearance of the words on the page
- LINE - a group of words together on one line of the poem
- STANZA - a group of lines arranged together

A word is dead  
When it is said,  
Some say.

I say it just  
Begins to live  
That day.



## KINDS OF STANZAS

- Couplet = a two line stanza
- Triplet (Tercet) = a three line stanza
- Quatrain = a four line stanza
- Quintet = a five line stanza
- Sestet (Sextet) = a six line stanza
- Septet = a seven line stanza
- Octave = an eight line stanza

## RHYTHM



- The beat created by the sounds of the words in a poem
- Rhythm can be created by meter, rhyme, alliteration and refrain.

## Types of Poems

- Ballad
- Elegy
- Ode
- Lyric
- Sonnet
- Epic
- Heroic
- Limerick
- Haiku
- Concrete
- Cinquain
- Diamante
- Free Style
- Blank verse

## METER

- > A pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables.
- > Meter occurs when the stressed and unstressed syllables of the words in a poem are arranged in a repeating pattern.
- > When poets write in meter, they count out the number of stressed (strong) syllables and unstressed (weak) syllables for each line. They then repeat the pattern throughout the poem.

## METER cont.

- FOOT - unit of meter.
  - A foot can have two or three syllables.
  - Usually consists of one stressed and one or more unstressed syllables.
- TYPES OF FEET**  
The types of feet are determined by the arrangement of stressed and unstressed syllables.  
(cont.)

## RHYME

- Words sound alike because they share the same ending vowel and consonant sounds.
  - LAMP
  - STAMP
  - ↑ Share the short "a" vowel sound
  - ↑ Share the combined "mp" consonant sound
- (A word always rhymes with itself.)

## METER cont.

### TYPES OF FEET (cont.)

- Iambic - unstressed, stressed
- Trochaic - stressed, unstressed
- Anapestic - unstressed, unstressed, stressed
- Dactylic - stressed, unstressed, unstressed

## END RHYME

- A word at the end of one line rhymes with a word at the end of another line

Hector the Collector  
Collected bits of *string*.  
Collected dolls with broken heads  
And rusty bells that would not *ring*.

## METER cont.

### Kinds of Metrical Lines

- monometer = one foot on a line
- dimeter = two feet on a line
- trimeter = three feet on a line
- tetrameter = four feet on a line
- pentameter = five feet on a line
- hexameter = six feet on a line
- heptameter = seven feet on a line
- octameter = eight feet on a line

## INTERNAL RHYME

- A word inside a line rhymes with another word on the same line.

Once upon a midnight *dreary*, while I  
pondered weak and *weary*.

From "The Raven"  
by Edgar Allan Poe

## NEAR RHYME

☐ a.k.a imperfect rhyme, close rhyme

ROSE  
LOSE

☐ The words share EITHER the same vowel or consonant sound BUT NOT BOTH

↑ Different vowel sounds (long “o” and “oo” sound)

↑ Share the same consonant sound

## ONOMATOPOEIA

☐ Words that imitate the sound they are naming



## RHYME SCHEME

☐ A rhyme scheme is a pattern of rhyme (usually end rhyme, but not always).

☐ Use the letters of the alphabet to represent sounds to be able to visually “see” the pattern. (See next slide for an example.)

## ONOMATOPEOIA continued

☐ OR sounds that imitate another sound

“The silken, sad, uncertain,  
rustling of each purple curtain  
...”



## SAMPLE RHYME SCHEME

The Germ by Ogden Nash

A mighty creature is the **germ**, a  
Though smaller than the **pachyderm**. a  
His customary dwelling **place** b  
Is deep within the human **race**. b  
His childish pride he often **pleases** c  
By giving people strange **diseases**. c  
Do you, my poppet, feel **infirm**? a  
You probably contain a **germ**. a

## ALLITERATION

☐ Consonant sounds repeated at close intervals at the beginnings of words

If **P**eter **P**iper **p**icked  
a **p**eck of **p**ickled  
**p**eppers, how many  
**p**ickled **p**eppers did  
**P**eter **P**iper **p**ick?



## CONSONANCE

- Similar to alliteration  
EXCEPT . . .

The repeated consonant sounds can be anywhere in the words

I dropped the locket in the thick mud



## FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE



## ASSONANCE

- Repeated VOWEL sounds in a line or lines of poetry.

(Often creates near rhyme.)

Lake Fate Base Fade

(All share the long "a" sound.)

## SIMILE

- A comparison of two things using "like, as than," or "resembles."

"She is as beautiful as a sunrise."



## ASSONANCE cont.

Examples of ASSONANCE:

"Slow the low gradual moan came in the snowing."



- John Masefield

"Shall ever medicine thee to that sweet sleep."



- William Shakespeare

## METAPHOR

- A direct comparison of two unlike things

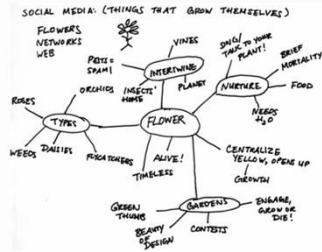
"All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players."

- William Shakespeare



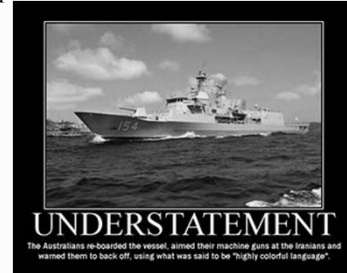
## EXTENDED METAPHOR

- ☐ A metaphor that continues through several lines or possibly the entire length of a work.



## Litotes

- ☐ Understatement - basically the opposite of hyperbole. Often it is ironic.



## PERSONIFICATION

☐ An animal given human-like qualities or an object given life-like qualities.

☐ Ex:

Earth felt the wound;  
and Nature, Sighing,  
through all her works,  
gave signs of woe.

- John Milton



## Tone

☐ The attitude of an author, as opposed to a NARRATOR or PERSONA, toward her subject matter and/or audience. Tone is closely linked to MOOD, but tends to be associated more with VOICE. The tone of Theodore Roethke's poem "My Papa's Waltz"--about a boy and his drunk father--for example, is sad, sentimental and IRONIC.



### MY PAPA'S WALTZ Theodore Roethke

The whiskey on your breath  
Could make a small boy dizzy;  
But I hung on like death:  
Such waltzing was not easy.

We romped until the pans  
Slid from the kitchen shelf;  
My mother's countenance  
Could not unfrown itself.

The hand that held my wrist  
Was battered on one knuckle;  
At every step you missed  
My right ear scraped a buckle.

You beat time on my head  
With a palm caked hard by  
dirt,  
Then waltzed me off to bed  
Still clinging to your shirt.

## Oxymoron

☐ A rhetorical figure in which incongruous or contradictory terms are combined

☐ Examples:

☐ a deafening silence  
and a mournful optimist.

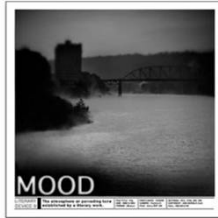


## OTHER POETIC DEVICES



## Mood

☐ The atmosphere that pervades a literary work with the intention of evoking a certain emotion or feeling from the audience. In drama, mood may be created by sets and music as well as words; in poetry and prose, mood may be created by a combination of such elements as SETTING, VOICE, TONE and THEME. The moods evoked by the more popular short stories of Edgar Allen Poe, for example, tend to be gloomy, horrific, and desperate.



## SYMBOLISM

☐ When a person, place, thing, or event that has meaning in itself also represents, or stands for, something else.



= Innocence



= America



= Peace

## Allusion

- ☐ Allusion comes from the verb “allude” which means “to refer to”
- ☐ An allusion is a reference to something famous.



A tunnel walled and overlaid  
With dazzling crystal: we  
had read  
Of rare Aladdin’s wondrous  
cave,  
And to our own his name we  
gave.

From “Snowbound”  
John Greenleaf Whittier

## SOME TYPES OF POETRY WE WILL BE STUDYING AND COMPOSING



## IMAGERY

- ☐ Language that appeals to the senses.
- ☐ Most images are visual, but they can also appeal to the senses of sound, touch, taste, or smell.



“then with cracked hands that ached  
from labor in the weekday weather . . .”

from “Those Winter Sundays”

## LYRIC

- ☐ A short poem
- ☐ Usually written in first person point of view
- ☐ Expresses an emotion or an idea or describes a scene
- ☐ Does not tell a story and is often musical



## REFRAIN

- ☐ A sound, word, phrase or line repeated regularly in a poem.

“Quoth the raven,  
‘Nevermore.’”



## Types of Lyric Poetry

- ☐ **Ode** - A lyric poem of some length, usually of a serious or meditative nature and having an elevated style and formal stanzaic structure.
- ☐ **Elegy** - A poem or song composed especially as a lament for a deceased person.
- ☐ **Villanelle** - a verse form of French origin consisting of 19 lines arranged in five tercets and a quatrain. The first and third lines of the first tercet recur alternately at the end of each subsequent tercet and both together at the end of the quatrain

### Polyhymnia: The Muse of Lyric Poetry





## HAIKU: Lyric Poem

A Japanese poem written in three lines

Five Syllables  
Seven Syllables  
Five Syllables

An old silent pond . . .  
A frog jumps into the pond.  
Splash! Silence again.



## CINQUAIN

A five line poem containing 22 syllables

Two Syllables  
Four Syllables  
Six Syllables  
Eight Syllables  
Two Syllables

How frail  
Above the bulk  
Of crashing water hangs  
Autumnal, evanescent, wan  
The moon.



## SHAKESPEAREAN SONNETS (Lyric Poems)

A fourteen line poem with a specific rhyme scheme.

The poem is written in three quatrains and ends with a couplet.

The rhyme scheme is abab cdcd efef gg

Sonnet 116 –

Let me not to the marriage of true minds Admit impediments. Love is not love Which alters when it alteration finds,

Or bends with the remover to remove:

O no! it is an ever-fixed mark That looks on tempests and is never shaken; It is the star to every wandering bark,

Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.

Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks Within his bending sickle's compass come: Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks, But bears it out even to the edge of doom.

If this be error and upon me proved, I never writ, nor no man ever loved.

## Diamante poems

☞ Poem that begins with one word and ends with its opposite.

☞ When completed, it will look like a diamond (diamante = diamond)

## CONCRETE POEMS

☞ In concrete poems, the words are arranged to create a picture that relates to the content of the poem.



Poetry  
Is like  
Flames,  
Which are  
Swift and elusive  
Dodging realization  
Sparks, like words on the  
Paper, leap and dance in the  
Flickering firelight. The fiery  
Tongues, formless and shifting  
Shapes, tease the imagination.  
Yet for those who see,  
Through their mind's  
Eye, they burn  
Up the page.

## Diamante pattern

☞ Line 1 = Word/opposite of line 7

☞ Line 2 = Description of line one (generally 2 words)

☞ Line 3 = Action that line one does (generally 3 words)

☞ Line 4 = Two words (usually nouns) about line 1 and two words (usually nouns about line 7

☞ Line 5 = Action that line 7 does (generally 3 words)

☞ Line 6 = Description of line 7 (usually 2 words)

☞ Line 7 = Word/opposite of line 1



## Diamante examples

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Love  
 Bright, Passionate  
 Charming, Drifting, Growing  
 Cherish, Infatuation, Antipathy, Uncaring  
 Animosity, Falling, Dead  
 Dark, Disgust  
 Hate

Try to make sure that words and descriptions about line 7/line 1 are parallel

## Types of Narrative Poems

- 
**Ballad** - A narrative poem, often of folk origin and intended to be sung, consisting of simple stanzas and usually having a refrain.
- 
**Epic** - An extended narrative poem in elevated or dignified language, celebrating the feats of a legendary or traditional hero.

## Diamante examples

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DREAMS  
 SUBJECTIVE, IMAGINARY  
 SLEEPING, WISHING, THINKING  
 FANTASY, VISION, ACTUALITY, CONSCIOUSNESS,  
 BEING, SEEING, KNOWING,  
 AUTHENTIC, FACTUAL  
 REALITY

## FREE VERSE POETRY

-  Unlike metered poetry, free verse poetry does NOT have any repeating patterns of stressed and unstressed syllables.
-  Does NOT have rhyme.
-  Free verse poetry is very conversational - sounds like someone talking with you.
-  A more modern type of poetry.

## NARRATIVE POEMS

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-  A poem that tells a story.
-  Generally longer than the lyric styles of poetry because the poet needs to establish characters and a plot.


Examples of Narrative Poems

“The Raven”  
 “The Highwayman”  
 “Casey at the Bat”  
 “The Walrus and the Carpenter”

## BLANK VERSE POETRY

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-  Written in lines of iambic pentameter, but does NOT use end rhyme.



Cowards die many times before their death.  
 The valiant never taste of death but once.

From *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*

Cowards die many times before their deaths;  
 The valiant never taste of death but once.  
 Of all the wonders that I yet have heard,  
 It seems to me most strange that men should fear;  
 Seeing that death, a necessary end,  
 Will come when it will come.