#### **POETRY**



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

#### **POINT OF VIEW IN POETRY**

#### **POET**

• The poet is the author of the poem.

#### **SPEAKER**

• 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.

#### **POETRY FORM**



- Enjambment the running on of the thought from one line, couplet or stanza to the next.
- Caesura a break or pause near the middle of the verse, marked by a ll line as in:
  - know then thyself ll presume not God to scan

#### KINDS OF STANZAS

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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
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## SOUND EFFECTS



#### RHYTHM





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

#### **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 they repeat the pattern throughout the poem.



- 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.)





• TYPES OF FEET (cont.)

Iambic - unstressed, stressed

Ex: But, soft! what light through yonder

window breaks?

Trochaic Tetrameter - stressed, unstressed (opposite of Iambic)

Ex: Liver of blaspheming Jew,
Gall of goat, and slips of yew
Silver'd in the moon's eclipse,
Nose of Turk and Tartar's lips,
Finger of birth-strangled babe. (*Macbeth*,
4.1.27), Third Witch

Anapestic Tetrameter - unstressed, unstressed, stressed

Ex: The Assyrian came down like the wolf on the fold,

And his cohorts were gleaming in purple and gold;

And the sheen of their spears was like stars on the sea,

When the blue wave rolls nightly on deep Galilee.

#### 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  $= \sin f = \sin f$
- heptameter = seven feet on a line
- octometer = eight feet on a line

#### 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.

#### **BLANK VERSE POETRY**

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

#### from Julius Ceasar

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.

#### RHYME



 Words sound alike because they share the same ending vowel and consonant sounds.

• (A word always rhymes with itself.)

- LAMP
- STAMP
- Share the short "a" vowel sound
- Share the combined "mp" consonant sound

#### 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 <u>ring</u>.

#### INTERNAL RHYME



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

- Once upon a midnight <u>dreary</u>, while I pondered weak and <u>weary</u>.
  - From "The Raven"
  - by Edgar Allan Poe

#### **NEAR RHYME**



- a.k.a imperfect rhyme, close rhyme
- The words share EITHER the same vowel or consonant sound BUT NOT BOTH

- ROSE
- LOSE
- Different vowel sounds (long "o" and "oo" sound)
  - Share the same consonant sound

#### 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.)

## SAMPLE RHYME SCHEME



a

a

b

h

a

a

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

#### **ONOMATOPOEIA**

- Words that imitate the sound they are naming
- BUZZ
- OR sounds that imitate another sound
- "The silken, sad, uncertain, rustling of
- each purple curtain . . . "



#### **ALLITERATION**



Consonant sounds repeated at the beginnings of words

• If <u>Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled</u> <u>peppers, how many pickled peppers did Peter Piper pick?</u>



#### CONSONANCE



• Similar to alliteration EXCEPT . . .

- The repeated consonant sounds can be anywhere in the words
- "<u>s</u>ilken, <u>s</u>ad, un<u>c</u>ertain, ru<u>s</u>tling . . "

### **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.)

#### **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

#### REFRAIN



- A sound, word, phrase or line repeated regularly in a poem.
- "Quoth the raven, 'Nevermore."



## SOME TYPES OF POETRY



#### LYRIC



- A short poem
- Usually written in first person point of view
- Expresses an emotion or an idea or describes a scene
- Do not tell a story and are often musical
- (Many of the poems we read will be lyrics.)



#### **NARRATIVE POEMS**



- A poem that tells a story.
- Generally longer than the lyric styles of poetry b/c 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"

#### **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 imiagination.
Yet for those who see,
Through their mind's
Eye, they burn
Up the page.

# FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE







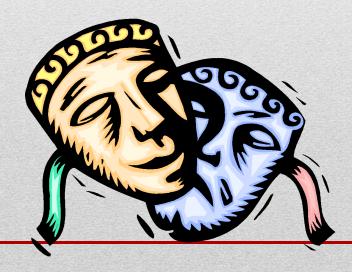
- A comparison of two things using "like, as than," or "resembles."
- "She is as beautiful as a sunrise."



#### **METAPHOR**



- A direct comparison of two unlike things
- "All the world's a stage, and we are merely players."
  - William Shakespeare





#### EXTENDED METAPHOR

• A metaphor that goes several lines or possible the entire length of a work.

#### IMPLIED METAPHOR



- The comparison is hinted at but not clearly stated.
- "The poison sacs of the town began to manufacture venom, and the town swelled and puffed with the pressure of it."

from The Pearl
by John Steinbeck





### Hyperbole

• Exaggeration often used for emphasis.

#### Litotes

- Understatement basically the opposite of hyperbole. Often it is ironic.
- Ex. Calling a slow moving person "Speedy"



#### Idiom

• An expression where the literal meaning of the words is not the meaning of the expression. It means something other than what it actually says.

• Ex. It's raining cats and dogs.





from "Ninki" by Shirley Jackson

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

"Ninki was by this time irritated beyond belief by the general air of incompetence exhibited in the kitchen, and she went into the living room and got Shax, who is extraordinarily lazy and never catches his own chipmunks, but who is, at least, a cat, and preferable, Ninki saw clearly, to a man with a gun.

## Synechdoche

- •which a term for a part of something is used to refer to the whole of something, or vice-versa
- For example, referring to a congregation as the church or the police as the law.

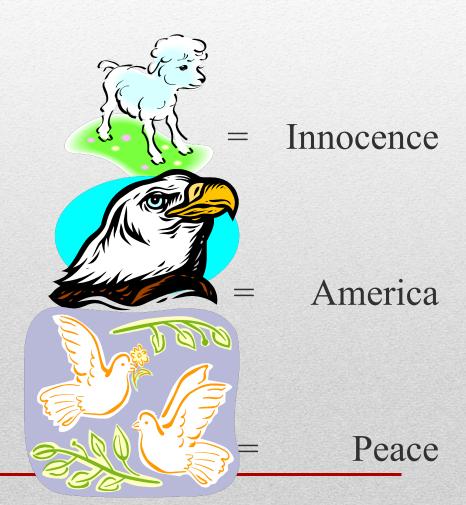
## OTHER POETIC DEVICES



#### **SYMBOLISM**



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



#### 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

#### **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"