

POETRY TERMS

1. **ALLITERATION** = the repetition of the same consonant sound at the beginning of words.

The snake slowly slithered across the sandy shore.

2. **DICTION** = specific and deliberate word choice to create a mood.

Words like *sunny, laughter, smiling, bright* create a mood of happiness
Words like *black, murder, agony, terror* create a scary, creepy mood.

3. **FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE (connotation)** = not the dictionary meaning of the words. The author does not mean for the reader to take the words literally.

Examples: simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, etc.

4. **HYPERBOLE** = a wild exaggeration.

His smile was a mile wide. (Not really, but he must be very happy!)

5. **LITERAL LANGUAGE (denotation)** = dictionary meaning of words; the author means for the reader to interpret the words just as they are written.

6. **METAPHOR** = compare two unlike things directly without using like or as.

Morning is a new sheet of paper for you to write on.

7. **MOOD**: the feeling or emotion created by a poem or story. Mood is often created by diction.

8. **ONOMATOPOEIA** = the use of a word whose sound is its meaning.

buzz -swish-crash-squeak-zing-groan-whisper

9. **PERSONIFICATION** = giving human qualities to animals, ideas, or objects

The sea awoke at midnight from its sleep.

10. **POETRY**= is mainly an imaginative way to express ones feelings or thoughts. Poetry is usually written using meters or verses that may rhyme, and is often considered graceful and beautiful.

11. **REFRAIN/REPETITION** = a word or line that is repeated in a poem to emphasize an important idea or create a certain effect.

12. **RHYME** = the repetition of syllable sounds that occur in the words at the end of lines of poetry.

He travels without map or chart
or any compass but his art.

13. **RHYTHM** = the sound pattern created by combining stressed and unstressed syllables; the beat of a poem.

14. **SENSORY IMAGERY** = appeals to the senses;
Makes the reader see, hear, feel, smell, or taste what's being described in the poem.

Bright red apple - hot fudge dripping off the vanilla cone

15. **SIMILE** = using like or as to make a comparison.

He flew in the room as fast as a rocket heading for Mars.

16. **SPEAKER** = the voice that talks to the reader, much like the narrator in a story.

17. **STANZA** = arrangement of lines forming a division in a poem -like a paragraph.