

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Poetry Unit: Literary Terms

**Definition** **Example** **Example from Class Poetry**

<p><b>Alliteration:</b> a number of words, having the same first consonant sound, occur close together in a series</p>	<p>A big bully beats a baby boy.</p>	
<p><b>Assonance:</b> takes place when two or more words, close to one another repeat the same vowel sound, but start with different consonant sounds.</p>	<p>Men sell wedding bells.</p>	
<p><b>Blank Verse:</b> un-rhyming verse written in iambic <u>pentameter</u>. In poetry and <u>prose</u>, it has a consistent <u>meter</u> with 10 syllables in each line (pentameter); where, unstressed syllables are followed by stressed ones, five of which are stressed but do not <u>rhyme</u>.</p>	<p>The <u>dreams</u> are <u>clues</u> that <u>tell</u>  us <u>take</u> <u>chances</u>.</p>	
<p><b>Consonance:</b> repetitive sounds produced by consonants within a sentence or phrase</p>	<p>Behind Me -- dips Eternity -- Before Me -- Immortality -- Myself -- the Term between -- Death but the Drift of Eastern Gray, Dissolving into Dawn away, Before the West begin --</p>	
<p><b>Couplet:</b> having two successive rhyming lines in a <u>verse</u>, and has the same <u>meter</u> to form a complete thought.</p>	<p>"The time is out of joint, O cursed spite That ever I was born to set it right!"</p>	
<p><b>Foot:</b> combination of stressed and unstressed syllables. there are various types of foot, each of which sounds differently</p>	<p><b>Example of Iambic Pentameter: Iamb:</b> Combination of unstressed and stressed syllable – (daDUM)</p>	
<p><b>Free Verse:</b> poems have no regular meter or rhythm. They do not follow a proper rhyme scheme; these poems do not have any set rules.</p>	<p><i>After the Sea-Ship</i> by Walt Whitman  After the Sea-Ship—after the whistling winds;  After the white-gray sails, taut to their spars and ropes,  Below, a myriad, myriad waves, hastening, lifting up their necks,  Tending in ceaseless flow toward the track of the ship.</p>	
<p><b>Hyperbole:</b> involves an <u>exaggeration</u> of ideas for the sake of emphasis.</p>	<p>Your suitcase weighs a ton!</p>	

<p><b>Iambic Pentameter:</b> is a beat or foot that uses 10 syllables in each line. Simply, it is a rhythmic pattern comprising five iambs in each line, like five heartbeats.</p>	<p>“When I see <u>birches bend to left and right/</u>  <u>Across the line of straighter darker trees...</u>”  <i>(Birches, by Robert Frost)</i>, each line contains five feet, and each foot uses one iamb.</p>	
<p><b>Metaphor:</b> makes an implicit, implied, or hidden <u>comparison</u> between two things that are unrelated, but which share some common characteristics.</p>	<p><b>Her dance is a great poem.</b></p>	
<p><b>Meter:</b> the basic rhythmic structure of a verse or lines in verse. Each unit of rhythm is called a "<b>foot</b>" of <b>poetry</b></p>	<p><b>Example: iambic pentameter</b></p>	
<p><b>Narrative Poem:</b> is a form of <b>poetry</b> that tells a story,</p>	<p><b>The Raven:</b> It tells of a talking <b>raven's</b> mysterious visit to a distraught lover, tracing the man's slow fall into madness.</p>	
<p><b>Onomatopoeia:</b> a word which imitates the natural sounds of a thing. It creates a sound effect that mimics the thing described, making the description more expressive and interesting.</p>	<p><b>Buzz, sizzle, plop, smash</b></p>	
<p><b>Octave:</b> It is a <u>verse</u> form that contains eight lines, which usually appear in an iambic <u>pentameter</u>.</p>		
<p><b>Personification:</b> <u>figure of speech</u> in which a thing – an idea or an animal – is given human attributes. The non-human objects are portrayed in such a way that we feel they have the ability to act like human beings.</p>	<p><b>The fire swallowed the entire forest.</b></p>	
<p><b>Prose:</b> Normal everyday speech is spoken in prose, and most people think and write in prose form. Prose comprises of full grammatical sentences, which consist of paragraphs, and forgoes aesthetic appeal in favor of clear, straightforward language.</p>		
<p><b>Quatrain:</b> A quatrain is a <u>verse</u> with four lines, or even a full poem containing four lines, having an independent and separate <u>theme</u>.</p>	<p>“He gives his harness bells a shake  To ask if there’s some mistake.  The only other sound’s the sweep  Of easy wind and downy flake.”</p>	
<p><b>Repetition:</b> literary device that repeats the same words or phrases a few times to make an idea clearer and more memorable.</p>	<p>“The woods are lovely, dark, and deep,  But I have promises to keep,    <b>And miles to go before I sleep,  And miles to go before I sleep.”</b></p>	
<p><b>Rhyme Scheme:</b> <u>Rhyme</u> scheme is the pattern of rhyme that comes at the end of each <u>verse</u> or line in poetry.</p>	<p><i>Twinkle Twinkle Little Star</i>  <b>Twinkle, twinkle, little star,</b> (A)  <b>How I wonder what you are.</b> (A)  <b>Up above the world so high,</b> (B)  <b>Like a diamond in the sky.</b> (B)</p>	

<p><b>Simile:</b> <a href="#">figure of speech</a> that makes a <a href="#">comparison</a>, showing similarities between two different things. Unlike a <a href="#">metaphor</a>, a simile draws resemblance with the help of the words “like” or “as.” Therefore, it is a direct comparison.</p>	<p>The glow of the tube-light was as bright as sunshine.</p>	
<p><b>Sonnet:</b> The word <i>sonnet</i> is derived from the Italian word “sonetto,” which means a “little song” or small <a href="#">lyric</a>. In poetry, a sonnet has 14 lines, and is written in iambic <a href="#">pentameter</a>. Each line has 10 syllables. It has a specific <a href="#">rhyme</a> scheme, and a <i>volta</i>, or a specific turn.</p> <p>Generally, sonnets are divided into different groups based on the <a href="#">rhyme scheme</a> they follow. The rhymes of a sonnet are arranged according to a certain rhyme scheme. The rhyme scheme in English is usually abab–cdcd–efef–gg, and in Italian abba–abba–cde–cde.</p>		
<p><b>Stanza:</b> A group of lines of verse, usually set off from other groups by a space.</p> <p>Stanzas in poetry are similar to paragraphs in <a href="#">prose</a>. Both stanzas and paragraphs include connected thoughts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Couplet</a> (2)</li> <li>• <a href="#">Tercet</a>(3)</li> <li>• <a href="#">Quatrain</a>(4)</li> <li>• Quintain(5)</li> <li>• <a href="#">Sestet</a>(6)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Symbolism:</b> it is an object representing another, to give an entirely different meaning that is much deeper and more significant.</p>	<p>The dove is a symbol of peace.</p>	
<p><b>Theme:</b> main idea or an underlying meaning of a literary work, which may be stated directly or indirectly.</p>	<p><b>Hunger Games: the importance of keeping your humanity and dignity as you try to survive</b></p>	
<p><b>Verse:</b> The literary device verse refers to a single line of poetry.</p>		