

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

## POETIC DEVICES

### I. SOUND DEVICES

1. ALLITERATION- The repetition of initial consonant sounds.

Examples: The white foam flew on the fair breeze.  
I'd rather wreck the red car.

Example:

2. ASSONANCE- The creation of a pattern of sound using repeated vowel sounds. (partial rhyme)

Examples: The flame was painful.  
A sign of the times.

Example:

3. CONSONANCE- A sound pattern formed by repeating consonant sounds. (not necessarily initial)

Examples: To let truths be told.  
To be all alone beyond my lover's call.

Example:

4. ONOMATOPOEIA- Words that imitate the sound they describe.

Example: The buzzing of bees.  
The crackle of the fire.

Example:

5. REPETITION - words, lines, images that are repeated for emphasis or effect

Example:

## 6. RHYME

i) END RHYME- Rhymes that occur at the ends of lines.

Example: The little black cat  
Who loved the gray rat.

Example:

ii) INTERNAL RHYME- A rhyme in which one or both of the rhyme words occur within the line.

Examples: I want to feel how real life is.  
The bird stuttered and fluttered and flew away.

Example:

7. RHYME SCHEME - A pattern of rhyming

8. RHYMING COUPLET - 2 lines of poetry that rhyme

9. RHYTHM - A pattern of beats within a poem; helps create meter

## II. FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

1. IMAGERY - Descriptive language that appeals to the senses and creates a mental image; a picture in the reader's mind.

Example: "The gray sea and the long black land;  
And the yellow half-moon large and low;  
And the startled little waves that leap  
In fiery ringlets from their sleep"

Example:

2. SIMILE- A comparison between two dissimilar objects using 'like' or 'as'.

[Structure #1: Noun + (to be verb) + like + Noun]

Example: Her voice is like honey.

[Structure #2: Noun+ verb+ as + adjective+ as + Noun]

Example: He went as white as a sheet.

Examples:

3. METAPHOR- A direct comparison between two dissimilar objects using a linking verb.

[Basic Structure: Noun + (to be verb) + Noun]

Examples: Her eyes were diamonds.  
A blanket of snow covered the ground.

Example:

4. PERSONIFICATION- Giving human characteristics or qualities to an animal, object, or an idea.

Examples: My wounds are crying for help.  
Angry skies threatened the picnickers.

Example:

5. HYPERBOLE- An exaggeration or overstatement.

Examples: Her head fell off from laughing so hard.  
I have tons of homework.

Example:

6. SYMBOL - When something is used - an image, idea, colour, etc. to represent something else

Examples: White symbolizes purity & innocence; the beaver is a symbol of Canada

Example:

### III. POEM FORMS

1. NARRATIVE- Tells a story; has plot, characters, conflict, setting

i) **Ballad**- short simple story, simple language, 4 line stanzas (quatrains), rhyme scheme, may have dialogue, usually about tragic events, great love, courageous acts

2. LYRIC- Expresses emotions; is subjective; often about love or death or in the praise of someone or something

### IV. OTHER

1. STANZA- A division of the poem; a group of lines; like a paragraph
2. VERSE - poetic language; a line of poetry
3. FREE VERSE- a verse without a rhyme scheme or rhythmic pattern
4. LITERAL MEANING- the surface meaning of a poem; factual
5. FIGURATIVE MEANING- the deeper meaning of a poem
6. SPEAKER/PERSONA- the character who speaks to the reader or audience (because the author is not always the speaker of the poem)