

English 1201/2201/3201

Poetry Review

Terminology

Poetic Forms:

Apostrophe: an address to a person absent or dead or to an abstract entity.

Ballad: Its primary purpose is to tell a story (i.e. has a plot). It also has musical attributes (rhyme and/or rhythm).

Blank Verse: A poem that has rhythm but no rhyme. (Many of Shakespeare's plays make extensive use of blank verse.)

Classicism: Poetry which holds the principles and ideals of beauty that are characteristic of Greek and Roman art, architecture, and literature.

Elegy: A poem of serious reflection, typically a lament for the dead.

Epitaph: A short poem usually suitable for a tombstone.

Free Verse: has no set rhyme, rhythm or stanza pattern. It is through composed.

Lyric/Contemporary lyric: Its primary purpose is to clearly reveal the poet's thoughts or feelings regarding a particular topic. It usually has musical attributes.

Ode: A lengthy lyric poem typically of a serious or meditative nature and having an elevated style and formal stanza structure.

Pastoral: A poem that depicts rural life in a peaceful, romanticized way. Relies heavily on the use of imagery.

Romanticism: A poem about nature and love while having emphasis on the personal experience.

Sonnet: a 14 line poem. The two most common types are:
Elizabethan/Shakespearean - rhyme scheme of
ABAB CDCD EFEF GG
Italian/Petrarchan - rhyme scheme of ABBA ABBA CDCDCD
or ABBA ABBA CDECDE

Villanelle: A 19 line poem, with two rhymes, five tercets and a quatrain.

Poetic Devices:

Figurative language:

- Simile: a comparison between two things using “like” or “as”.

ex. _____

- Metaphor: a comparison between 2 things without using “like” or “as”.

ex. _____

- Personification: giving human characteristics to non-living things.

ex. _____

Alliteration: The repetition at close intervals of the initial consonant sound.

ex. _____

Allusion: The reference to a historical or well-known figure or event.

ex. _____

Analogy - the comparison of two pairs which have the same relationship.

ex. shoe is to foot as tire is to wheel

Assonance: deliberate repetition of identical or similar vowel sounds

ex. _____

Consonance: deliberate repetition of identical or similar consonant sounds.

ex. _____

Cacophony: The repetition at close intervals of harsh-sounding syllables.

ex. _____

Euphony: The repetition at close intervals of soft-sounding syllables.

ex. _____

Connotation - the emotional suggestions and associations we attach to words beyond their denotation

ex. _____

Denotation - the dictionary meaning of a word

ex. _____

Diction: poet's distinctive choices in vocabulary. SINGLE WORDS. Usually helps the reader to distinguish the writer's tone.

ex. _____

Enjambment: (in verse) the continuation of a sentence without a pause beyond the end of a line, couplet, or stanza.

Hyperbole - a figure of speech involving exaggeration.

ex. _____

Understatement - saying less than what is truly meant.

ex. _____

Idiom - a phrase that cannot be understood by a literal translation or interpretation, but refers to a figurative meaning understood because of its common usage.

ex. _____

Imagery - The use of words that appeal to the senses. There are five types: visual (sight), auditory (sound), tactile (touch), gustatory (taste), and olfactory (smell).

Irony (situational): When the opposite of what is expected occurs

Jargon - Language particular to a trade, profession, or group.

ex. _____

Mood: The emotion created in the reader

Onomatopoeia: The mimicking of sound in poetry. Helps to create auditory imagery. ex.

Oxymoron: The use of a seeming contradiction of two words.

ex. _____

Paradox: a situation, person, or thing that combines contradictory features or qualities within itself (Ex. Batman is both hero and villain)

Parallelism: The repetition of identical grammatical form.

ex. _____

Rhyme scheme (end rhyme) - the pattern of rhyming words that are placed at the end of each line of poetry. The scheme is indicated by letters of the alphabet (ex. ABCB = the last words of the second and fourth lines rhyme with each other).

ex. _____

Slang - a word or phrase which is (within the language), universally recognizable, but the usage is short-lived

ex. _____

Colloquialism - a word or phrase which is recognizable to a small cultural or geographic group. Its usage is long-standing.

ex. _____

Symbolism: The use of something tangible to represent something abstract

Ex. A rose is a tangible object often used to represent the abstract concept of love.

Tone: The author's attitude toward their subject

Rhythmic Devices:

Iambic pentameter: a poetic rhythm where the pattern of stress or accent occurs on every second syllable

ex. _____

Anapestic pentameter - a poetic rhythm where the pattern of stress or accent occurs on every third syllable

ex. _____

Additional notes:
