

Various Poetic Devices

Some of the following poetic terms are intended for use by Mr. Rasmussen.

1. *Poetry*

Poetry is a patterned form of verbal or written expression of ideas in concentrated, imaginative, and rhythmical terms.

2. *Meter*

Meter is the pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables established in a line of poetry.

3. *Foot*

A foot is a unit of meter.

4. *Types of Metrical Feet*

The basic types of metrical feet determined by the arrangement of stressed and unstressed syllables are:

- a. iambic foot d. dactylic foot
- b. trochaic foot e. spondaic foot
- c. anapestic foot f. pyrrhic foot

5. *Rhymed Verse*

Rhymed verse consists of verse with end rhyme and usually with a regular meter.

6. *Blank Verse*

Blank verse consists of lines of iambic pentameter without end rhyme.

7. *Free Verse*

Free verse consists of lines that do not have a regular meter and do not contain rhyme.

8. *Rhyme*

Rhyme (also spelled “rime”) is the similarity or likeness of sound existing between two words.

9. *Position of Rhyme*

Rhyme may be end rhyme or internal rhyme.

10. *Masculine Rhyme*

Masculine rhyme occurs when one syllable of a word rhymes with another word. (bend and send, bright and light)

11. *Feminine or Double Rhyme*

Feminine rhyme occurs when the last two syllables of a word rhyme with another word. (lawful and awful, lighting and fighting, rattling and battling)

12. **Triple Rhyme**

Triple Rhyme occurs when the last three syllables of a word or line rhyme. (Victorious and glorious, ascendancy and descendancy, quivering and shivering, battering and shattering)

13. **Rhyme Scheme**

Rhyme scheme is the pattern or sequence in which the rhyme occurs. The first sound is represented or designated as a, the second sound is designated as b, and so on. When the first sound is repeated, it is designated as a.

14. **Alliteration**

Alliteration is the repetition of the initial letter or sound in two or more words in a line of verse.

15. **Onomatopoeia (on o mat o pe'a)**

Onomatopoeia is the use of a word to represent or imitate natural sounds. (buzz, crunch, tinkle, gurgle, sizzle, hiss)

16. **Personification**

Personification is the giving of human characteristics to inanimate objects, ideas, or animals.

17. **Symbol**

A symbol is a word or image that signifies something other than what is literally represented.

18. **Stanza**

A stanza is a division of a poem based on thought or form.

19. **Kinds of Stanzas**

The basic stanza forms are:

- a. couplet—two-line stanza
- b. triplet—three-line stanza
- c. quatrain—four-line stanza
- d. quintet—five-line stanza
- e. sestet—six-line stanza
- f. septet—seven-line stanza
- g. octave—eight-line stanza
- h. others are identified as nine-, tenor eleven-line stanzas.

20. **Limerick**

A limerick is a five-line nonsense poem with an anapestic meter. The rhyme scheme is usually a-a-b-b-a. The first, second, and fifth lines have three stresses; and the third and fourth have two stresses.

Poetic Terms (Click on term below)

- [assonance](#)
 - [ballad](#)
 - [couplet](#)
 - [diction](#)
 - [foot](#)
 - [free verse](#)
 - [haiku](#)
 - [iambic](#)
 - [limerick](#)
 - [line](#)
 - [meter](#)
 - [pastiche](#)
 - [realism](#)
 - [repetition](#)
 - [sestina](#)
 - [sonnet](#)
 - [terza rima](#)
 - [tone](#)
 - [ut pictura poesis](#)
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