

ALLITERATION - is the repetition of initial consonant sounds.

ALLUSION - is a direct or indirect reference to a familiar figure, place or event from history, literature, mythology or the Bible.

APOSTROPHE - a figure of speech in which a person not present is addressed.

ASSONANCE - is a close repetition of similar vowel sounds, usually in stressed syllables.

ATMOSPHERE / MOOD - is the prevailing feeling that is created in a story or poem.

CACOPHONY - Harsh sounds introduced for poetic effect - sometimes words that are difficult to pronounce.

CLICHE - an overused expression that has lost its intended force or novelty.

CONNOTATION - the emotional suggestions attached to words beyond their strict definitions.

CONSONANCE - the close repetition of identical consonant sounds before and after different vowels.

CONTRAST - the comparison or juxtaposition of things that are different

DISSONANCE - the juxtaposition of harsh jarring sounds in one or more lines.

EXTENDED METAPHOR - an implied comparison between two things which are essentially not alike. These points of comparison are continued throughout the selection.

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE - Language used in such a way as to force words out of their literal meanings by emphasizing their connotations to bring new insight and feeling to the subject.

HYPERBOLE - an exaggeration in the service of truth - an overstatement.

IDIOM - is a term or phrase that cannot be understood by a literal translation, but refers instead to a figurative meaning that is understood through common use.

IMAGERY - is the representation through language of sense experience. The image most often suggests a mental picture, but an image may also represent a sound, smell, taste or tactile experience.

IRONY - is a literary device which reveals concealed or contradictory meanings.

JARGON - language peculiar to a particular trade, profession or group.

JUXTAPOSITION - is the overlapping or mixing of opposite or different situations, characters, settings, moods, or points of view in order to clarify meaning, purpose, or character, or to heighten certain moods, especially humor, horror, and suspense. also Contrast

METAPHOR - a comparison between two things which are essentially dissimilar. The comparison is implied rather than directly stated.

METER - any regular pattern of rhythm based on stressed and unstressed syllables.

METONYMY - use of a closely related idea for the idea itself.

MOOD - see atmosphere

ONOMATOPOEIA - the use of words which sound like what they mean.

Most of the terms and definitions taken from the following website
<http://www.bestlibrary.org/murrayslit/2009/09/poetic-devices.html>

OXYMORON - two words placed close together which are contradictory, yet have truth in them.

PARADOX - a statement in which there is an apparent contradiction which is actually true.

PERSONIFICATION - giving human attributes to an animal, object or idea.

RHYME - words that sound alike

RHYME SCHEME - any pattern of rhymes in poetry. Each new sound is assigned the next letter in the alphabet.

RHYTHM - a series of stressed or accented syllables in a group of words, arranged so that the reader expects a similar series to follow.

SIMILE - a comparison between two things which are essentially dissimilar. The comparison is directly stated through words such as like, as, than or resembles.

SYMBOL - a symbol has two levels of meaning, a literal level and a figurative level. Characters, objects, events and settings can all be symbolic in that they represent something else beyond themselves.

SYNECOCHE - the use of a part for the whole idea.