

Name _____

Poetic Terms

alliteration: repetition of initial consonant sounds of several words in a line of poetry or a sentence

allusion: a reference to a person, place, or event from another piece of literature or history that the poet or author assumes the reader will be familiar with

assonance: repetition of vowel sounds in several words in a line of poetry or a sentence

consonance: repetition of consonant sounds as in *march* and *lurch*, or *stick* and *stuck*, or *fish* and *dish*

couplet: two lines of poetry that rhyme

end rhyme: similar sounding words at the ends of lines

euphemism: a mild expression that substitutes for one that might be blunt or offensive

exaggeration: a stretch beyond the truth

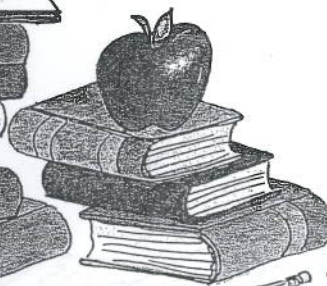
figurative language: non-literal expressions that help people visualize ideas, things, or feelings vividly (includes metaphor, simile, alliteration, personification, and onomatopoeia)

free verse: poetry that is free of regular rhythm, rhyme scheme, meter, or form

hyperbole: an obvious and intentional exaggeration not intended to be taken literally

imagery: the language that appeals to all five senses

imagist poem: a short poem that presents images in the most economical way





internal rhyme: similar sounding words within a line of poetry

metaphor: a direct comparison of different things that shows a likeness between the two (not using *like* or *as*)

mood: the feeling that a poem or story creates in the reader

narrative poem: a poem that tells a story with all the elements of a short story: character, setting, conflict, and plot

ode: a poem that celebrates a subject

onomatopoeia: words that sound like the noises they describe

persona poem or mask poem: a poem written from the point of view of another person or thing

personification: human characteristics given to animals, objects, or ideas

quatrain: a poem or a stanza of four lines

refrain: a word or phrase that is repeated throughout the poem

repetition: a sound, word, phrase, or sentence used more than once

rhyme scheme: a repeated regular pattern of rhymes usually at the end of lines of poetry

rhythm: a pattern of beats or a series of stressed and unstressed syllables

simile: a comparison that uses *like* or *as*

stanza: a group of lines in a poem separated from other stanzas by blank lines

tone: the attitude the writer takes toward the audience, subject, or character

verse: a line of poetry