

### *Poetic forms*

ballad	A poem or song which tells a story in simple language.
elegy	A poetic form which is essentially a song of sadness for someone or something lost
epic poem	A long narrative poem, usually telling the story of the deeds of a legendary hero.
epigram	A short, witty poem expressing a single thought (often employing irony).
lyric poetry	Typically, a short poem in which the poet expresses personal feelings, usually about love.
narrative verse	Poetry that tells a story
ode	Poem written in praise of something or someone, characterised by dignity of language and mood, with a high level of emotion and imagination; e.g. "Ode on a Grecian Urn" by John Keats.
sonnet	<p>A lyric poem of fixed form: 14 lines of verse written in iambic pentameter, rhymed and organised according to several intricate schemes. In general the ideas developed in a sonnet accord loosely with these divisions, which are marked by rhyme. Three patterns predominate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Petrarchan sonnet:</b> octave and sestet, rhymed abba abba cde, cde (or cdcdcd).</li> <li>• <b>Spenserian sonnet:</b> 3 quatrains and a couplet, rhymed abab, bcbc, cdcd, ee</li> <li>• <b>Shakespearean sonnet:</b> 3 quatrains and a couplet, but rhymed, abab, cdcd, efef, gg.</li> </ul>

**Language features in poetry**

alliteration	<p>The repetition of <b>consonant</b> sounds, usually at the beginning of words or on accented syllables.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Examples:</i>  <u>P</u>eter <u>P</u>iper <u>p</u>icked a <u>p</u>eck of <u>p</u>ickled <u>p</u>eppers  <u>C</u>arey <u>c</u>aught her <u>k</u>itten in the <u>k</u>itchen.</p>
assonance	<p>The repetition of a similar vowel sound.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Example:</i> F<i>iv</i>e t<i>im</i>es n<i>in</i>e.</p>
blank verse	<p>Verse with a set rhythm in iambic pentameter but <b>no</b> set rhyme scheme.</p>
caesura	<p>Refers to a natural pause or <b>break</b> in a line of poetry, usually (but not always) indicated by a punctuation mark.</p>
consonance	<p>A repeated arrangement of consonant sounds with a change in the vowel, also known as <i>half-rhyme</i>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Example:</i> flip-flop.</p>
couplet	<p>Two successive lines of verse rhymed and in the same metre.</p>
end-stopped line	<p>A line of a stanza which has a grammatical pause at the end of the line.</p>
enjambment	<p>Occurs when a line of poetry runs on into the next line, without punctuation.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Example:</i> And, when there came a pause of silence  such as baffled his best skill</p>
heroic couplet	<p>Rhyming couplets of iambic pentameter.</p>
iambic pentameter	<p>The metre used by Shakespeare in <b>blank verse</b> and sonnets. It consists of five iambic feet and follows a regular pattern of stressed/unstressed syllables.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Example:</i> When to / the sess/ions of/sweet si/lent thought  Shakespeare, 'Sonnet 30'</p>

metaphor	<p>A direct comparison between two unlike things. It often calls attention to similarities of function/form/feeling between the two things.</p> <p><i>Examples:</i>  Oh my love is a red, red rose.  The soldier was a lion in battle</p> <p>* An <b>extended metaphor</b> occurs when the comparison is extended beyond one to several points of comparison, throughout a poem or portion of text.</p> <p>* A <b>mixed metaphor</b> is a juxtaposition of two or more incompatible metaphors often used for humorous effect.  <i>Example:</i> I smell a rat, and I shall not rest until I have nipped it in the bud</p>
metre	An arrangement of the strong and weak stresses of word syllables to create a rhythmic pattern.
onomatopoeia	<p>Words that sound like the noise they describe.</p> <p><i>Examples:</i> swish, smack, rattle, bang</p>
personification	<p>A type of metaphor in which an abstract or non-human thing is given human qualities.</p> <p><i>Examples:</i> The palm tree waved its hands at us</p>
rhyme	<p>Similarity of sound usually found at the end of lines.</p> <p><i>Examples:</i> Late/fate, follo/swallow.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Internal rhyme:</b> occur within a verse line. <i>Example:</i> Sister, my sister, O <b>fleet sweet</b> swallow <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>End rhymes:</b> the most common form, occurs at the end of lines of verse.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Eye rhymes:</b> words which are spelled alike and in most instances were once pronounced alike, but now have a different pronunciation.  <i>Examples:</i> prove/love; daughter/laughter</li> </ul>
rhyming couplet	Two lines of iambic pentameter which are end rhymed.
rhythm	Rhythm is the pace or tempo at which a passage moves. It is created by the emphasis or stress placed on syllables, or words, or groups of words.

simile	<p>An indirect comparison between two things, often using the 'like' or 'as'.</p> <p><i>Examples:</i></p> <p>Oh, my love is like a red, red rose. The soldier was lion-like in battle The flames crept as a jaguar creeps on its belly</p>
volta	<p>A break between the octave and sestet in a sonnet, often showing a change in the direction of the thoughts being expressed.</p>