



## POETIC DEVICES

### ALLITERATION

Alliteration is repetition of a sound or letter at the beginning of several words in a series or sentence.

Example: *Beethoven's **b**rilliance was **b**eyond **b**elief.*

### FREE VERSE

A form of poetry that does not use consistent meter or rhyme, though it usually follows the rhythm of speech.

Example:

*The music swirls around me,  
Enveloping me in its warmth.  
The stage lights are hot  
I feel the eyes on me.  
My heart pounds to the beat.  
I exhale.  
I inhale.  
The music pours out of me.*

### METAPHOR

Metaphor is a figure of speech that directly compares two things to suggest similarity.

Example:

*The concert hall is my home.*

### ONOMATOPOEIA

Onomatopoeia is a word that describes or mimics the sound of an object or action.

Example:

*The baby began to fall asleep to the **plink plink plink** of the piano in the living room.*

### CONSONANCE

Consonance is repetition of a sound or letter in any part of a word, usually at the end, in a series or sentence.

Example: *The **string** section was **sounding** so amazing it sent **tingles** down my spine.*

### RHYME AND RHYME SCHEME

Rhyme is the repetition of sounds at the end of a series of two or more words (often in the final syllable or syllables). Poetry often uses patterns of rhymes, known as rhyme schemes.

Example:

*My teacher tells me I need to practice **more**.  
I respond saying I find it a **bore**.  
She says only practice will improve my **skill**.  
I roll my eyes and promise I **will**.  
Sometimes I feel like I'm at **war**  
and constantly climbing **uphill**.  
But then I remember what it's all **for**  
so I decide to keep building my **skill**.*

### SIMILE

Simile is a figure of speech that compares two often unlikely things, introduced by the phrases like or as

Example:

*The tuba was as heavy as a hippo.*

### PERSONIFICATION

Personification is a figure of speech where a non-human object is portrayed with human qualities.

Example:

*The flute solo danced around the concert hall, filling every corner.*