

Poetic Devices

simile	a comparison using "as" or "like"
alliteration	the deliberate repetition of consonant sounds
assonance	deliberate repetition of identical or similar vowel sounds
apostrophe	an address to a person absent or dead or to an abstract entity
diction	poet's distinctive choices in vocabulary
echo	repetition of key word or idea for effect
hyperbole	exaggeration for dramatic effect
metaphor	a comparison not using as or like when one thing is said to be another
onomatopoeia	"sound echoing sense"; use of words resembling the sounds they mean
oxymoron	the use of contradictory terms (together) for effect.
paradox	seeming contradiction that surprises by its pithiness
personification	attribution of human motives or behaviours to impersonal agencies
rhyming couplet	a pair of lines which end-rhyme expressing one clear thought
rhyme	repetition of same sounds
rhythm	internal 'feel' of beat and metre perceived when poetry is read aloud
tone, mood	feelings or meanings conveyed in the poem/emotional effect of a poem
free verse	a poem without either a rhyme or a rhythm scheme, although rhyme may be used, just without a pattern.
blank verse	un-rhymed lines of iambic pentameter (ten syllables with all even numbered syllables accented)
imagery	the use of words to create a mental picture
symbol	something which represents something else besides itself.

enjambment	the continuation of thought from one line of poetry to the next without punctuation needed at the end of the previous line(s).
analogy	the comparison of two things by explaining one to show how it is similar to the other.
allusion	a casual reference to someone or something in history or literature that creates a mental picture.