

Figurative language

[Literature](#), [Drama](#)



Figurative Language * Poets use figurative language such as metaphor, simile, personification and onomatopoeia, to express ideas or feelings. * Poets use metaphors to compare two apparently unlike things without using the words like, as, then, or resembles. The sky is a patchwork quilt * Poets use similes to make such comparisons using connection words as in the sky is a patchwork of quilt. * Personification is a language that attributes human qualifications to non-human things as in the wind danced in the trees * Onomatopoeia is the use of the word whose sound imitates its meaning. Ex: buzz, hiss, thud, and sizzle * Imagery is a descriptive language poets use to create word pictures or images. Images are enhanced by sensory language which provides details related to the senses. Types of poetry * Narrative-tells story that has the same literary elements, such as character, plot, settings, as works of prose fiction. Ballads, epics, and verse romances are three types of narrative poems. * Dramatic- uses techniques of drama to represent the speech of one or more characters in verse form * Lyric- expresses the thoughts and feelings of a single speaker, sonnets, odes, elegies, and haiku are four types of lyric poem. Elements * Meter- the regular pattern of stressed (1) and unstressed (2) syllables in a poetic line * Foot- unit of rhythm Most common English feet Iamb ^/ Trochee /^ spondee // (Around) (Broken) (Airship) Dactyl /^^ anapest /^^ (Argument) (Understand) * Number of feet per line Monometer 1 foot dimeter 2 feet trimeter 3 feet Tetrameter 4 feet pentameter 5 feet * Stanzas- groups of poetic lines can be formally or informally organized and can run for many lines or just one Couplet-2 lines tercet- 3 lines Quatrain-4 lines sestet-6 lines Sound devices * Rhyme- repetition of sounds at the end of words: top and drop * Alliteration-

repetition of initial consonant sounds: weak and weary * Consonance- repetition of final consonant sounds: pull and fall * Assonance- repetition of similar vowel sounds; low and low * Onomatopoeia-use of word that sound like what it means * Paradox-statement, idea, or situation that seems contradictory, but actually expresses a truth: “ more things change, the more they stay the same” * Paraphrasing- restating in your own words what someone else has said or written. Paraphrase retains the meaning but is usually simpler