

Glossary of Poetic Terms

Sound devices

Term	Definition	Example
Alliteration		
Assonance		
Consonance		
Dissonance		
Sibilance		
Meter (Rhythm)		
<i>iamb</i>		
<i>troche</i>		
<i>iambic pentameter</i>		
Onomatopoeia		
Rhyme (Exact rhyme)		
<i>Near rhyme (Half rhyme)</i>		
<i>Internal rhyme</i>		
<i>Couplet</i>		
<i>Rhyme scheme</i>		

Examples of rhyming in verses:

- **Alternating rhyme, crossed rhyme, or interlocking rhyme:** Rhyming pattern is ABAB
- **Intermittent rhyme:** Every other line rhymes
- **Envelope rhyme or inserted rhyme:** Rhyming pattern ABBA
- **Irregular rhyme:** No fixed pattern to the rhyming

- **Sporadic rhyme or occasional rhyme:** Unpredictable pattern with mostly unrhymed lines
- **Thorn line:** A line that does not rhyme in a passage that usually rhymes

Poetry Terms: Language and Literary Devices (creating images)

Term	Definition	Example
Allusion		
Antithesis		
Hyperbole		
Imagery		
Juxtaposition		
Metaphor		
Metonymy		
Mood		
Personification		
Repetition		
<i>Anaphora</i>		
<i>Epiphora</i> <i>Epistrophe</i>		
<i>Polyptoton</i>		
<i>Epizeuxis</i>		
<i>Polysyndeton</i>		
<i>Asyndeton</i>		
Simile		
Symbol		
Tone		

Poetry Terms: Structure

Term	Definition	Example
Stanza		
Verse		
Free Verse		
Blank verse		
Enjambment		
Caesura		
End-stopped		
elision		
sonnet		
<i>English / Shakespearean sonnet</i>		
<i>Italian / Petrarchan sonnet</i>		