**Poetry Terms English 10 Mr. Herms**

Define each poetry term and find an example online. Make sure to copy and paste the link in the word document. Make sure to copy and paste this document to a new one, and then share it with me. Do not edit the original.

Poem: A poem is a collection of spoken or written words that expresses ideas or emotions in a powerfully vivid and imaginative [style](http://literarydevices.net/style/), comprising of a particular rhythmic and metrical pattern. In fact, it is a literary technique, which is different from [prose](http://literarydevices.net/prose/) or ordinary speech, as it is either in metrical pattern or in free [verse](http://literarydevices.net/verse/).

Stanza: a group of lines forming the basic recurring metrical unit in a poem; a verse.

Prose: is a form of language that has no formal metrical structure. It applies a natural flow of speech, and ordinary grammatical structure rather than rhythmic structure, such as in the case of traditional poetry.

**TYPES OF POETRY**

Lyrical: a type of emotional songlike poetry, distinguished from dramatic and narrative poetry

Dramatic: a narrative poem in which one or more characters speak. The dramatic poem consists of the thoughts or spoken statements (or both) of one or more characters other than the poet himself in a particular life situation. It is dramatic rather than narrative since the character is not "written about" by the poet; rather, the poem consists of the character's own thoughts or spoken statements

Narrative: tells a story in verse. Ballads and epics are two forms of narrative poetry. An example is Edgar Allan Poe’s “The Raven.”

Epic: A long form poem that tells a story, and usually has a character portrayed as a hero, such as Odysseus in “The Odyssey”.

Free Verse: poetry not written in a regular rhythmical pattern; non-metrical poetry in which the basic rhythmic unit is the line and in which pauses, line breaks, and formal patterns develop organically from the requirements of the individual poem rather than from established poetic forms.

Blank Verse: poetry written in meter but containing no ending rhyme. Lines of verse contain forms closest to that of natural speaking, yet are flexible and adaptive.

Limerick: it is a bawdy, humorous, or nonsensical verse written in the form of five anapests with aabba [rhyme scheme](http://literarydevices.net/rhyme-scheme/). Since it has a special structure and format, it is called fixed or closed form of poetry.

Haiku: A haiku poem has three lines, where the first and last lines have five moras, while the middle line has seven. The pattern in Japanese [genre](http://literarydevices.net/genre/) is 5-7-5. The mora is another name of a sound unit, which is like a syllable, but it is different from a syllable.

Acrostic: An **acrostic poem** is a type of **poetry** where the first, last or other letters in a line spell out a particular word or phrase. The most common and simple form of an **acrostic poem** is where the first letters of each line spell out the word or phrase.

**Ballad**: a song, transmitted orally, which tells a story. Usually narrator begins with a climactic or traumatic episode, tells the story tersely by means of action and dialogue and tells it without self-reference or the expression of personal attitudes or feelings. Many ballads employ (1) stock repetitive phrases such as “blood-red wine” and “milk white steed,” (2) a refrain in each stanza, and (3) incremental repetition, in which a line or stanza is repeated, but with an additional verse that advances the story, 4) dialogue between at least 2 characters, 5) quatrains or **ballad stanzas** that rhyme of on lines 2 and 4. A **literary ballad**was a favorite form of the Romantic period. Coleridge’s “Ancient Mariner” is a good example, and “The Ballad of Birmingham” is an American example.

“It is an ancient Mariner,  
And he stoppeth one of three.  
'By thy long gray beard and glittering eye,  
Now wherefore stopp'st thou me?'"

Sonnet: a sonnet has 14 fourteen lines and is written in iambic [pentameter](http://literarydevices.net/pentameter/). The rhyme scheme in English is usually abab-cdcd-efef-gg

IMAGERY/FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Simile: A [simile](http://literarydevices.net/tag/simile/) is a figure of speech that makes a [comparison](http://literarydevices.net/comparison/), showing similarities between two different things. Unlike a [metaphor](http://literarydevices.net/metaphor/), a simile draws resemblance with the help of the words “like” or “as”. Therefore, it is a direct comparison.

Metaphor: [Metaphor](http://literarydevices.net/tag/metaphor/) is a figure of speech which makes an implicit, implied or hidden [comparison](http://literarydevices.net/comparison/) between two things that are unrelated but share some common characteristics.

Personification: [Personification](http://literarydevices.net/tag/personification/) is a figure of speech in which a thing, an idea or an animal is given human attributes. The non-human objects are portrayed in such a way that we feel they have the ability to act like human beings.

Hyperbole:  derived from a Greek word meaning “over-casting” is a figure of speech, which involves an [exaggeration](http://literarydevices.net/exaggeration/) of ideas for the sake of emphasis.

SOUND PATTERNS

Alliteration: is derived from Latin’s “Latira”. It means “letters of alphabet”. It is a stylistic device in which a number of words, having the same first consonant sound, occur close together in a series.

Consider the following examples:

* But a better butter makes a batter better.
* A big bully beats a baby boy.

Assonance: takes place when two or more words close to one another repeat the same vowel sound but start with different consonant sounds.

Consonance: refers to repetitive sounds produced by consonants within a sentence or phrase.

It is classified as a literary term used in both poetry as well as [prose](http://literarydevices.net/prose/). For instance, the words chuckle, fickle, and kick are consonant with one and other due to the existence of common interior consonant sounds (/ck/).

Couplet: two successive lines of poetry in which the ending words rhyme

Iambic Pentameter: five metrical feet consisting of one unaccented syllable followed by one accented syllable (example: re - HEARSE)

Meter: [Meter](http://literarydevices.net/tag/meter/) is a stressed and unstressed syllabic pattern in a [verse](http://literarydevices.net/verse/) or within the lines of a poem. Stressed syllables tend to be longer and unstressed shorter. In simple language, meter is a poetic device that serves as a linguistic sound pattern for the verses, as it gives poetry a rhythmical and melodious sound. For instance, if you read a poem loudly, and it produces regular sound patterns, then this poem would be a metered or measured poem. The study of different types of versification and meters is known as [prosody](http://literarydevices.net/prosody/).

Refrain: a repeated word, phrase, line, or group of lines, normally at some fixed position in a poem written in stanzaic form.

Rhyme: repetition of the accented vowel sound and all the succeeding sounds in important or importantly positioned words ( examples: old-cold, vane-reign, court-report). This definition applies to a perfect rhyme.

Rhyme Scheme: regular pattern of rhyming words in a poem or stanza.

Onomatopoeia: is defined as a word, which imitates the natural sounds of a thing. It creates a sound effect that mimics the thing described, making the description more expressive and interesting. Ex- wham, pow whir, hum

Class is once a day a

Please don’t waste it away a

Spring is coming soon b

The bird in the tree sings a tune b