

Poetry Vocab

Alliteration: repeating the same beginning sound in words (She sells seashells by the seashore.)

Allusion: referencing recognizable people, events, myths, etc. either directly or indirectly to elicit understood meaning (He's such a Scrooge!)

Hyperbole: describing something in an overly dramatic way (We waited in line all day.)

Idiom: a well known phrase that means one thing, but says another (It's raining cats and dogs.)

Imagery: words that help form a picture in the reader's mind, often by drawing on senses (The bacon popped and sizzled as the greasy goodness wafted through the kitchen.)

Line Break: where the line of text ends in a poem

Metaphor: comparing two things without using 'like' or 'as' (You are a chicken.)

Meter: a pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables

Onomatopoeia: words that sound like the words they refer to (hiss, buzz)

Personification: giving human traits to non-human things (I'm all ears.)

Rhyme: repetition of similar sounding words (cat, hat, bat, drat), usually at the end of lines

Rhythm: the beat of the poem

Simile: comparing two things using 'like' or 'as' (You are as blind as a bat.)

Stanza: a section of poetry, usually with the same number of lines each time. Often stanzas use a repeating rhyming pattern. Like paragraphs in a story, stanzas are one of the building blocks of poetry.

Verse: one line of a poem