**Poetry Terms Study Guide**

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| **Devices** | **Definitions** | **Examples** | |
| **Simile** | **A comparison of two things using “like” or “as”** | **George is eating like a pig at the table.**  **Her sneeze was as loud as a train whistle.**  **I felt like a fish out of water.** | **The day was as hot as the sun.**  **He could swim like a fish.** |
| **Metaphor** | **A comparison of two unlike things without using “like” or “as”.** | **Lisa is a fox!**  **Her smile was a ray of sunshine.** | **The stars were diamonds in the sky.**  **He couldn't stand because his legs were rubber.** |
| **Onomatopoeia** | **Words that imitate the sounds in which they are referring to.** | **Rip-Roar, WOW, Boom, buzzing, Plop, fizz** | **The buzzing bee flew away.**  **The sack fell into the river with a splash.** |
| **Alliteration** | **The repetition of consonant sounds in the beginning of neighboring words.** | **The dark dance of death whisked her away.**  **“Our traveling habits have tired us.**  **Can you give us a room with a view?”** | **“Ah, William, we’re weary of weather,”said the sunflowers, shining with dew.** |
| **Personification** | **When a non-human thing is given human qualities or actions.** | **The wind whispered her name.** | **The little dog laughed**  **To see such sport,**  **And the dish ran away with the spoon.** |
| **Hyperbole** | **An obvious and deliberate exaggeration to emphasize or show humor.** | **She cried for days.**  **I am dying of shame.**  **I am trying to solve a million issues these days.** | **My grandmother is as old as the hills.**  **Your suitcase weighs a ton!**  **She is as heavy as an elephant!** |
| **Imagery** | **The use of words to create vivid pictures in the reader’s mind that appeal to the five senses.** | **Cynthia in the Snow**  **It SHUSHES**  **It hushes**  **The loudness in the road.**  **It flitter-twitters,**  **And laughs away from me.** | **It laughs a lovely whiteness,**  **And whitely whirls away,**  **To be**  **Some other where,**  **Still white as milk or shirts,**  **So beautiful it hurts.** |
| **Rhyme** | **The repetition of sounds at the ends of words.** | **Listen to the MUSTN’TS, child,**  **Listen to the DON’TS**  **Listen to the SHOULDN’TS**  **The IMPOSSIBLES, the WON’TS** | **Listen to the NEVER HAVES**  **Then lost close to me—**  **Anything can happen, child,**  **ANYTHING can be.** |
| **Repetition** | **A technique in which a sound, word, or phrase is repeated for emphasis.** | **Witch, witch,**  **what do you drink?**  **Vinegar and good red ink.**  **Witch, witch,** | **where do you sleep?**  **Up in the clouds**  **where the pillows are cheap. Witch, witch** |