

Elements of Poetry

Round 1

Alliteration

- The repetition of sounds at the beginning of words within the same line
- Think tongue twisters
 - “She sold seashells on the sea shore”
- Example:
 - from “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner”
 - The fair breeze blew, the white foam flew,
 - The furrow followed free;
 - We were the first that ever burst
 - Into that silent sea

Allusion

- A reference to something with which the reader is likely to be familiar with
- Could be a person, place, historic event, literature, or some aspect of culture.
- Example:
 - from “On First Looking Into Chapman’s Homer”
 - Which bards in fealty to Apollo hold (reference to Greek god of music and poetry)
 -Homer rules as his demesne (reference to writer of the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*)
 - Or like stout Cortez when with eagle eyes (reference to Spanish explorer)

Hyperbole

- The obvious stretching of the truth to emphasize strong feeling or to create a humorous effect
- An exaggeration
- Think about fish stories:
It was this big!
- Example:
 - Unknown
 - She appeared in a mile of billowing chiffon, flashing a rhinestone the size of an ostrich egg.

Metaphor

- The direct comparison between two unlike things.
- Does not use the word like or as in making the comparison
- Do you consider the quarterback the backbone of the team?
- Example
 - from “Metaphor”
- Morning is a new sheet of paper for you to write on.

Simile

- Compares two unlike things.
- Uses the words like or as in making the comparison.
- Juan is as quick as the wind on the track.
- Example:
 - from “Lost”
- Where fog trails and mist creeps,
The whistle of a boat
Calls and cries unendingly,
Like some lost child