

ENGLISH 11H POETRY TERMS

Terms and Concepts You Already Know

*Alliteration	Hero's Journey	Rhetorical Question
*Allusion	*Hyperbole	*Rhyme: exact, internal, slant
*Ambiguity	*Imagery	*Rhyme Scheme
Antagonist	*Iambic Pentameter	*Rhyming Couplet
Archetypes	*Irony (Dramatic/Situational/ Verbal)	Satire
*Assonance	*Metaphor	*Setting
*Characterization	*Personification	*Simile
*Consonance	First-person point-of-view	*Style
Dialect	3 rd person limited point-of-view	*Symbol
*Diction	Narrator	*Theme
Epic/Epic Hero	Omniscient point-of-view	*Tone
*Figurative Language (an umbrella term)	*Protagonist	Tragic Hero/Tragic Flaw
Frame Story	*Repetition	

**Frequently used in poetry also*

New Poetry Terms

Apostrophe	Connotation	Onomatopoeia
Anaphora	Denotation	Quatrain
Anastrophe	Enjambment	Shift
Blank Verse	Euphonious= adj. (Euphony = noun)	Speaker
Cacophonous= adj. (kacoffin- us) (Cacophony = noun)	Meter/metric foot	Stanza
Cadence	Metonymy	Synecdoche
Conceit/Extended metaphor	Mood/Atmosphere	Syntax

Types of Poems

Ballad	Free verse	Sonnet
Allegory	Narrative	Stream-of-consciousness
Elegy	Ode	
Epic	Pastoral	

Additional words to use when discussing poetry

Complexity	Form	Tension
Contrast	Kinetic	Understatement
Ellipsis	Oxymoron/Paradox	Unity
Epiphany	Perspective/Vantage Point	Voice

Grouping of the above:

- **Figurative language:** metaphor, simile, personification, apostrophe, hyperbole
- **Imagery:** words and/or phrases which have sensory appeal: sound, smell, taste, touch, sight
- **Diction:** concrete, vivid direct words, abstract words, basic, elevated, denotation and connotation of words, euphonious, cacophonous
- **Sound devices:** alliteration, assonance, consonance, onomatopoeia, etc.
- **Tone/Attitude:** ironic, sarcastic, etc.
- **Notice shift:** what is the change and how is it developed--ask why
- **Structure of the poem:** lines, stanzas, punctuation, syntax, enjambment, etc.

Two Strategies to Approach Poems:

**Always analyzing the "What," "How," and "Why"

Method 1: About, Do, Mean

Method 2: SOAPStone + Theme

SPEAKER: Who is the speaker of the poem? What do you know about him or her?

OCCASION: What is the occasion of the poem? What is the event that prompts the speaker to speak?

AUDIENCE: To whom is the speaker speaking? What do you know about him or her?

PURPOSE: What is the purpose of the poem? Why do you think the poet wrote the poem?

SUBJECT: What is the subject of the poem? Sometimes I ask: What is the **STORY** of the poem?

tone: What is the tone of the poem? What is the speaker's attitude toward the subject of the poem?

THEME: What is the theme of the poem? What is the poet pointing out about people, society, or life? State the theme succinctly.

Broken down into the simplest steps:

What's the cool stuff going on in the poem?

And how does the cool stuff make the poem mean something?