POETRY
POETRY

➢ A type of literature that expresses ideas, feelings, or tells a story in a specific form (usually using lines and stanzas)
# POINT OF VIEW IN POETRY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POET</th>
<th>SPEAKER</th>
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<td>The poet is the author of the poem.</td>
<td>The speaker of the poem is the “narrator” of the poem.</td>
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POETRY FORM

FORM - the appearance of the words on the page

LINE - a group of words together on one line of the poem

STANZA - a group of lines arranged together

A word is dead when it is said, Some say.

I say it just begins to live That day.
KINDS OF STANZAS

Couplet = a two line stanza
Triplet (Tercet) = a three line stanza
Quatrain = a four line stanza
Quintet = a five line stanza
Sestet (Sextet) = a six line stanza
Septet = a seven line stanza
Octave = an eight line stanza
SOUND EFFECTS
RHYTHM

- The beat created by the sounds of the words in a poem
- Rhythm can be created by meter, rhyme, alliteration and refrain.
METER

- A pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables.
- Meter occurs when the stressed and unstressed syllables of the words in a poem are arranged in a repeating pattern.
- When poets write in meter, they count out the number of stressed (strong) syllables and unstressed (weak) syllables for each line. They then repeat the pattern throughout the poem.
METER cont.

- **FOOT** - unit of meter.
- A foot can have two or three syllables.
- Usually consists of one stressed and one or more unstressed syllables.

- **TYPES OF FEET**
  The types of feet are determined by the arrangement of stressed and unstressed syllables.
  (cont.)
TYPES OF FEET (cont.)

Iambic - unstressed, stressed
Trochaic - stressed, unstressed
Anapestic - unstressed, unstressed, stressed
Dactylic - stressed, unstressed, unstressed
Kinds of Metrical Lines

- monometer = one foot on a line
- dimeter = two feet on a line
- trimeter = three feet on a line
- tetrameter = four feet on a line
- pentameter = five feet on a line
- hexameter = six feet on a line
- heptameter = seven feet on a line
- octometer = eight feet on a line
You blocks! / You stones! / You worse / than sense / less things!

(Julius Caesar, Act I, scene i)
FREE VERSE POETRY

- Unlike metered poetry, free verse poetry does NOT have any repeating patterns of stressed and unstressed syllables.
- Does NOT have rhyme.
- Free verse poetry is very conversational - sounds like someone talking with you.
- A more modern type of poetry.
from *Julius Ceasar*

Cowards die many times before their deaths;
The valiant never taste of death but once.
Of all the wonders that I yet have heard,
It seems to me most strange that men should fear;
Seeing that death, a necessary end,
Will come when it will come.

Written in lines of iambic pentameter, but does NOT use end rhyme.
RHYME

- Words sound alike because they share the same ending vowel and consonant sounds.

- (A word always rhymes with itself.)

LAMP
STAMP

↑ Share the short “a” vowel sound
↑ Share the combined “mp” consonant sound
A word at the end of one line rhymes with a word at the end of another line.

Hector the Collector
Collected bits of *string*.
Collected dolls with broken heads
And rusty bells that would not *ring*.
INTERNAL RHYME

A word inside a line rhymes with another word on the same line.

Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered weak and weary.

From “The Raven” by Edgar Allan Poe
NEAR (or SLANT) RHYME

- a.k.a imperfect rhyme, close rhyme

- The words share EITHER the same vowel or consonant sound BUT NOT BOTH

  > Different vowel sounds (long “o” and “oo” sound)

  > Share the same consonant sound

  ROSE

  LOSE
A rhyme scheme is a pattern of rhyme (usually end rhyme, but not always).

Use the letters of the alphabet to represent sounds to be able to visually “see” the pattern. (See next slide for an example.)
The Germ  by Ogden Nash

A mighty creature is the germ,  a
Though smaller than the pachyderm.  a
His customary dwelling place  b
Is deep within the human race.  b
His childish pride he often pleases  c
By giving people strange diseases.  c
Do you, my poppet, feel infirm?  a
You probably contain a germ.  a
ALLITERATION

Consonant sounds repeated at the beginnings of words

If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers, how many pickled peppers did Peter Piper pick?
CONSONANCE

Similar to alliteration EXCEPT . . .

The repeated consonant sounds can be anywhere in the words

“silken, sad, uncertain, rustling . . .”
ASSONANCE

Repeated VOWEL sounds in a line or lines of poetry.

(Often creates near/slant rhyme.)

Lake    Fate    Base    Fade
(All share the long “a” sound.)
ASSONANCE cont.

Examples of ASSONANCE:

“Slow the low gradual moan came in the snowing.”
- John Masefield

“Shall ever medicine thee to that sweet sleep.”
- William Shakespeare
REFRAIN

A sound, word, phrase or line repeated regularly in a poem.

“Quoth the raven, ‘Nevermore.’”
Caesura - A strong pause within a line of verse.
The following stanza from Hardy's "The Man He Killed" contains caesuras in the middle two lines:

He thought he'd 'list, perhaps, Off-hand-like--just as I--
Was out of work-had sold his traps--
No other reason why.
Enjambment - the continuation of a sentence without a pause beyond the end of a line, couplet, or stanza.

On the next slide are a few lines from Keats' *Endymion* which demonstrate how enjambment works:
A thing of beauty is a joy forever:
Its loveliness increases; it will never
Pass into nothingness but still will keep
A bower quiet for us, and asleep
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.

The first and last lines above are end-stopped; lines 2, 3 and 4 are enjambed.