

Warm Up: Answer the ? below

What do you think you should do as you read poetry?

Get out your A Tale Tell Heart Comprehension ?'s and Assignment or CC if it is incomplete

Introduction to 8th Grade Poetry

Recognize challenges as opportunities for creative growth

What I think you should do as you Read Poetry?

As you read each poem, read it with a pencil in hand.

Take notes (read with a purpose).

Highlight or underline parts of the poem that you like or find puzzling.

Circle words in the poem that you enjoy or find interesting.

Write down questions about each poem to be raised in class discussion.

Remember, when we read poetry out loud, it is meant to be read with **feeling** and **appropriate tone**..



What makes writing a poem vs. a story?

poetic language appeals to feelings

description

set in a special form

has a special rhythm to it

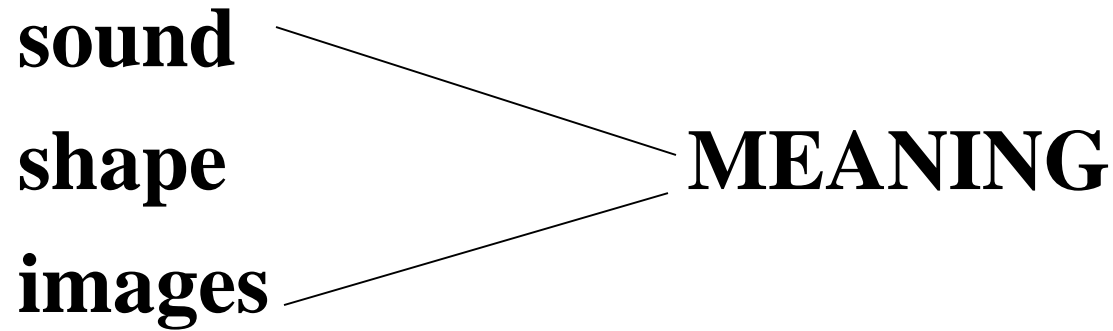
words chosen on how



Example #1

**As the cat
climbed over
the top of
the jam closet
first the right forefoot
carefully**

Elements of Poetry



Topic = subject

Theme = message



Example #2

**This is just to say I have eaten the plums
that were in the icebox and which you were
probably saving for breakfast forgive me
they were delicious so sweet and so cold**

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Literal v. Figurative Analysis

Literal (Denotative) Level looking at the words for their usual meaning without exaggeration or imagination.

Figurative (Connotative) Level using words out of their ordinary meaning to add beauty and force.



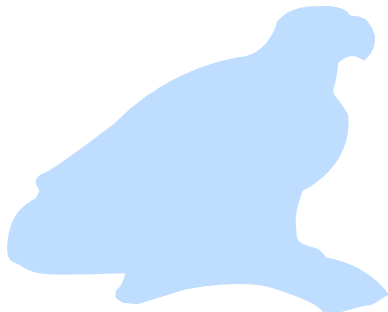
Figurative (Connotative) Language

language that represents one thing in terms of another, usually by comparison.

Figurative language creates vivid sensory images in our minds and makes poems fresh and original.

The Eagle

**He clasps the crag with crooked hands;
Close to the sun in lonely lands,
Ring'd with the azure world, he stands.
The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls;
He watches from his mountain walls,
And like a thunderbolt he falls.**



- Alfred Lord Tennyson



Summary - Denotative

The poem has a very simple concept. It focuses on one eagle, alone in the wild. In the first line, the eagle is atop a mountain, poised to strike. He is high up where no other animal or human can go. He is alone in his grandeur, with the sun and the bright blue sky forming the perfect background scenery.

The second stanza shows the only action of the eagle. The first and second line show that as he watches from his high perch, the sea moves below him. Then, in the final line, the eagle makes a grand dive towards the sea. The poem ends here, with the reader not quite sure why the eagle dived off his mountain roost.



The Eagle: Analysis

LITERAL:

Analysis: Tennyson provides the image of a predatory bird scouring the sea for prey.

FIGURATIVE:

Example: "He clasps the crag with crooked hands." (line 1).

Analysis: The hard consonant sounds combined with images of crags and crooked hands set up the desolateness of nature and its cruelty.

Example: "And like a thunderbolt he falls." (line 6).

Analysis: Tennyson employs a simile, comparing the eagle's descent to a thunderbolt. It hints at the suddenness at which life can end.

Figurative Language: Simile and Metaphor



ES: Make decisions after reflection and review

SIMILE

Descriptions of people, places, or things are often made more vivid through the use of comparisons.

Definition: Any comparison that is introduced by the preposition like or as

Harold was like a werewolf, waiting for the moon to turn full.

cottage cheese

-fat

METAPHOR

Metaphors offer a more dramatic way of drawing a comparison. Unlike similes, there are no prepositions used.

**Definition: draws a comparison. States that one thing is
-use them**

Life is just a bowl of cherries

He is a stuffed shirt

Jane is a tower of strength



Cliché

a phrase or opinion that is overused and betrays a lack of original thought.

Meek as a mouse

As old as the hills

Busy as a bee

Strong as a bull

Brave as a lion

etc.

**You're as
skinny
as a rail**

**and you're
a mountain**



Other Poetic Devices



ES: Make decisions after reflection and review



Vivid and precise Word Choice

Use what we learned about simile and metaphor yesterday to make these mundane sentences sparkle! Select any 3 - but avoid clichés!

The moon was full

The tidal wave was big

The diamond was bright

The tea was hot

The man walked quickly

Personification

A figure of speech where animals, ideas, or inorganic objects are given human characteristics

“The wind stood up and gave a shout. He whistled on his two fingers.”

The thunder grumbled like an old man.
(personification and simile)

Read “Autumn”



What is this poem personifying?

**It squats,
head hanging low,
patient
It watches through my skylight
as the sun fades into the trees,
Then suddenly becomes alert,
preparing for the assault
of darkness**

**When night creeps through it raises its metal-sheathed head
so its gaping mouths face the oncoming foe**

Click!

Allusion

A reference in a work of literature to a person, place, or event in another work of literature, history, art, or music

He gave a **Herculean** effort during the football game.

He was a real **Scrooge** when asked to donate to the organization.

I thought the software was safe to open, but it was a **Trojan Horse**.



Grass- *Carl Sandburg*

**Pile the bodies high at Austerlitz and Waterloo,
Shovel them under and let me work**







Hyperbole

An extravagant exaggeration

You've grown like a bean sprout.

I'm older than the hills.



Symbolism

Many words like “fire” can have multiple meaning – literal and figuratively. This adds to the mystery of poetry



And Now for Words Related to Sound

Alliteration



Alliteration

The repetition of consonant sounds (often at the beginning of words) – often used in advertising/slogans

“Tippecanoe and T

Assonance

The repetition of vowel sounds

“I like Ike”

“He gives his harness bells a shake” (from Robert Frost’s “Stopping by the Woods on a Snowy Evening”)

A blinding sight



Meter

The measured arrangement of words in poetry, as by accentual rhythm, syllabic quantity, or the number of syllables in a line

There are several types of set meter