

Poetic techniques

Alliteration

Consecutive words beginning with the same letter or sound.

Example: "*The wild wind whistled down the street*".

Repetition

Saying the same word or phrase a number of times to create emphasis.

Example: "*The sun shone down, it was hot, hot, hot*".

Simile

Comparing two different things using the words 'like' or 'as'.

Example: "*He was as cold as ice*".

Metaphor

A comparison saying that something is something else.

Example: "*His head was an ice block*".

Caesura

Punctuation in the middle of a line, often used to stop the poem flowing.

Example: "*He stopped. He gasped. He saw his shadow.*"

Enjambment

No punctuation at the end of a line of poetry.

Stanza

Another word for a verse.

Sibilance

The repeated use of the 's' sound, creating a hissing sound.

Example: "*The slippery snake slithered along the ground*".

Structure

The way in which a poem is laid out.

Rhyme scheme

The way that a poet makes the poem rhyme.