

rhyme: when two or more words have the same sound

Examples:

single rhyme: *cat, hat*

double rhyme: *napping, tapping*

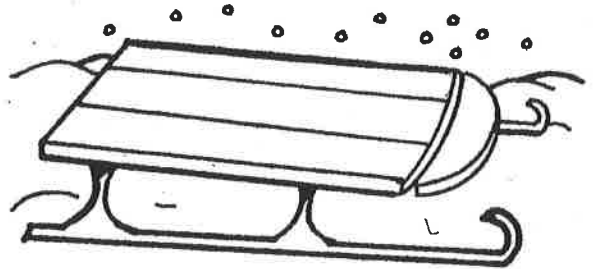
triple rhyme: *mournfully, scornfully*

internal rhyme: *The cat sat happily purring.*

rhyme scheme: a pattern of accented and unaccented syllables

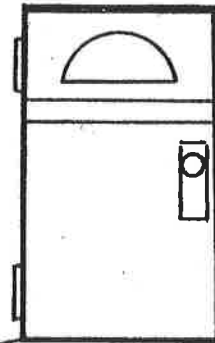
Poetry is usually written in verse. Groups of lines in a poem are called stanzas. Lines often have a definite rhythm, or beat. Sometimes poets create lines that rhyme:

*Winter is so very nice
Ski, sled, and skate on ice.
I like it when the snow comes down
They close the schools all over town.
My friends and I go out to play
We hope for snow another day!*



Sometimes lines don't rhyme:

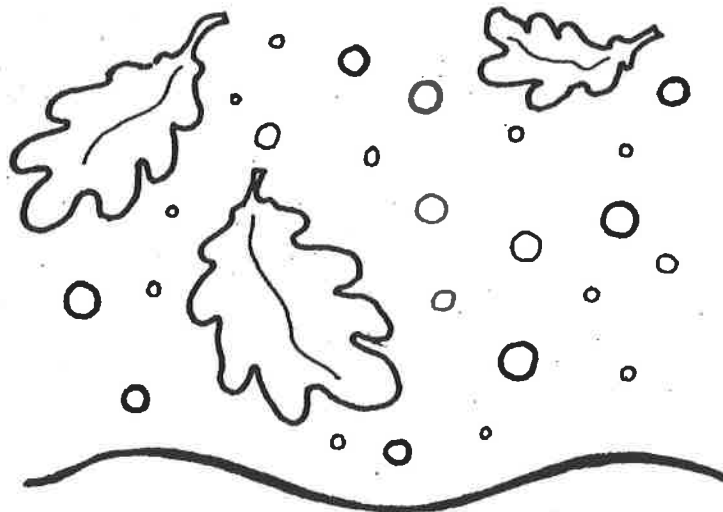
*There he was
Alive, strong, and looking well.
I saw the happiness in his eyes,
In his laughter,
In his smile.
It looked like it would never fade.
As I stepped out of his door and said goodbye,
I didn't mean forever.*



Poets are usually more succinct than prose writers. That is, poets convey their messages with fewer words and in less space than do prose writers. Each word the poet uses, each writing technique the poet employs, each placement of a word on a line is done purposefully to achieve the desired effect on the reader. The change poem below illustrates such an effect.

Autumn Snow

*Leaves
Fall
To the
Ground
And
Blanket
The
Earth
With
Snow
On
A
Mid
Winter's
Day.*



Poets take great care to ensure that their poem expresses their intended message. As poet Samuel Coleridge defined it, poetry is "the best words in the best order."

Sounds the Same

Assonance is the repetition of vowel sounds in a line of poetry. The following line contains an example of assonance:

I *paid* my way on the *plane* to *Maine*.

The long a sound is repeated in the words *paid*, *way*, *plane*, and *Maine*.

Consonance is the repetition of consonant sounds in a line of poetry. The line below contains consonance, in which the *b* and *ck* consonant sounds are repeated.

Bring back the black jacket.

Using Assonance

Brainstorm words that have the following vowel sounds. Some examples have been provided.

a	e	i	o	u
rain	wheat	light	goat	hue
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Now try to create a line of poetry that has assonance using words that repeat the same vowel sound. You can use words from any one of the lists above.

Using Consonance

Brainstorm words that have the same sound as the consonant combinations below. Some examples have been provided.

ck	dge	ch	sh	br	wh
black	fudge	cheek	wish	broken	whirl
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Now, try to create a line of poetry that has consonance by using words that repeat the same consonant sound. You can use words from any one of the lists above.