

## **Poetry Vocabulary**

**Connotation:** Emotional impact attached to words beyond their literal meaning.

**Paraphrase:** Putting something into your own words. In poetry, you lose the musical quality and rhyme

**Prose:** The ordinary form of written language. Everyday speech.

**\*Personification:** Giving human qualities or characteristics to inanimate objects or animals.

**Narrative poem:** A poem that tells a story in poetic form. Contains plot, setting, characters, etc. Relies on rhythm and rhyme. Organized in stanzas.

**Stanzas:** Groups of lines that form units in a poem.

**Ballad:** A Narrative poem that tells a simple and dramatic story. Intended to be sung or recited. Has strong rhythms and rhymes.

**\*Juxtaposition:** The placing of two images or ideas side by side allowing the reader to make the comparison. Not a direct comparison.

**Rhythm:** A pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables in the lines of a poem. Usually contributes to meaning.

**Rhyme:** The repetition of sounds in words that appear close to one another in a poem.

**End Rhyme:** The repetition of sounds in words which occurs at the end of two or more lines.

**Refrain:** A word, phrase, line, or group of lines that are repeated regularly in a poem.

**Infer:** A reasonable conclusion one can draw on clues or evidence given.

**Figurative language:** Language that is meant to be interpreted imaginatively, not literally. (I'm so hungry I could eat a horse.)

**\*Simile:** A comparison between two basically unlike things using the words "Like" or "AS."  
(She is like the sun.)

**\*Metaphor:** A direct comparison between two unlike things saying something **is** something else. Doesn't use "Like" or "As." (She is the sun.)

**\*Extended metaphor:** A comparison that makes more than one continued point of comparison.

**\*Imagery:** The use of vivid language to describe people, places, things, and ideas. Creates a mental picture. Suggests how things look and also how they sound, smell, taste, and feel.

**\*Alliteration:** The repetition of an initial consonant sound in two or more words in a phrase. Picked to enhance meaning.

**\*Onomatopoeia:** The use of a word or phrase that actually imitates or suggests the sound of what it describes. (Buzz, Whir)

**\* Symbol:** Any person, place, or thing that has meaning in itself and also stands for or represents something else. (Flag – nation, Dove – peace.

**\*Parallel structure:** The repetition of a grammatical structure. ( Example on pg. 556 & 565)

**Lyric poetry:** Poetry that expresses the poet's thoughts and feelings. Creates a mood through vivid images, descriptive words, and the musical quality of the lines.

**\*Sensory language:** Language that appeals to the senses.

**Free verse:** Poetry with irregular rhythms and varied line lengths. Free of traditional forms of poetry. Similar to regular speech.

**Concrete poetry:** Poetry in which the shape of the poem on the page resembles the subject of the poem.

**Stereotype:** an oversimplified mental picture or judgment.