**Poetry and Music Lyrics**

Poetry is a literary genre that uses particular techniques to communicate meaning to the reader that goes beyond the apparent meaning of the words themselves. Sometimes, the meaning being conveyed is significantly different from the apparent meaning of the text itself. Song lyrics are a type of poetry, set to music, which contributes to conveying meaning.

Along with a thematic connection, common techniques used by the writers of poetry and song lyrics include:

* [**Rhythm**](https://nbvhs-nbed.brightspace.com/content/English/ENGLISH_122/Eng122_PL_2019-20_S2/Module%202/ELA122_02_17.html?d2lSessionVal=yYLvRqU3jFNbMVWFToZRa1C36&ou=55989&d2l_body_type=3)
* [**Rhyme**](https://nbvhs-nbed.brightspace.com/content/English/ENGLISH_122/Eng122_PL_2019-20_S2/Module%202/ELA122_02_17.html?d2lSessionVal=yYLvRqU3jFNbMVWFToZRa1C36&ou=55989&d2l_body_type=3)
* [**Symbolism**](https://nbvhs-nbed.brightspace.com/content/English/ENGLISH_122/Eng122_PL_2019-20_S2/Module%202/ELA122_02_17.html?d2lSessionVal=yYLvRqU3jFNbMVWFToZRa1C36&ou=55989&d2l_body_type=3)
* [**Tone**](https://nbvhs-nbed.brightspace.com/content/English/ENGLISH_122/Eng122_PL_2019-20_S2/Module%202/ELA122_02_17.html?d2lSessionVal=yYLvRqU3jFNbMVWFToZRa1C36&ou=55989&d2l_body_type=3)
* [**Literary Devices**](https://nbvhs-nbed.brightspace.com/content/English/ENGLISH_122/Eng122_PL_2019-20_S2/Module%202/ELA122_02_17.html?d2lSessionVal=yYLvRqU3jFNbMVWFToZRa1C36&ou=55989&d2l_body_type=3)

Rhythm or metre is the recurrence in poetry of a rhythmic pattern, or rhythm established by the regular or almost regular occurrence of similar units of rhythm. All language is to some degree rhythmical, for all language involves some kind of alternation between accented and unaccented syllables. In language that is metrical, the accents are so arranged as to occur at apparently equal intervals of the time. Metrical language is called verse. Non-metrical language is called prose.

Rhyme is an important musical resource available to the poet to set off lines, to tie a poem together, and to create certain effects that will enhance emotion and meaning. By rhyme, we mean the similarity or identity of accented vowels (and all following sounds) preceded by different consonant sounds. Rhyme usually occurs at the end of lines. When it is used in the middle of a line, it is called internal rhyme.

Symbolism is defined as the use of an object or a person to represent something else. Often, in order for an object to symbolize something else, it must be connected to the title or the theme of the piece. In longer pieces of literature, an object is only considered a symbol if it is mentioned more than once.

Tone refers to the attitude that the poet expresses toward the subject. It may be humorous, ironic, philosophic, etc. A poet may shift tone in a poem but it must be justified and artistically appropriate to the material and the purpose. A reader must accurately identify the speaker as well as who or what is being addressed to identify the tone.

These are the tools a writer uses to craft the written message. The term literary devices is often confused with figures of speech, which is a separate category. Any literary device a writer uses enhances the messages and allow the writer to creatively capture their ideas on paper can be considered a “Literary Device”.

**Assignment: Poetry and Music Lyrics**

**IMPORTANT NOTE: For this assignment you will choose a piece of poetry or a song to respond to.**

Your analysis must include the title of the piece you read, the words (lyrics), the author, and any other identifying information you think would be helpful (context, date, etc.). Your response should include answers to the following questions: **How does the piece relate to your chosen theme?** Does the piece cause you to think about something you’ve never thought about before? Or maybe think differently about something? Are there any words or lines that “get to you”? Write your ideas, what resonates with you, what questions it raises, what connections you made, what you thought of the author's choices (word choice, figurative language, etc.)

Once you have studied your chosen poem or song you must now choose a genre to respond with. The general idea here is that as we go through these weekly lessons you will analyze a different genre each week and you will respond using a different genre each week. In the final assignment you will simply be asked to tie it all together in a final project.