

Poetic Devices

Poetic devices are tools that a poet can use to enhance a poem's meaning or intensify a mood or feeling. These devices help piece the poem together like how a hammer and nails join pieces of wood together.

Alliteration	Sequential words that have the same beginning sound. "Polly planted purple pansies in the garden."
Onomatopoeia	Words that sound like the objects or actions to which they refer. "The car zoomed by the house."
Imagery	The use of sensory words to give the reader a mental image. "The wool jacket felt prickly against her fingers."
Hyperbole	An exaggeration. "This class is so boring, I think I'm going to die!"
Metaphor	A comparison of two unlike things. "The clouds are cotton balls in the sky."
Simile	A comparison using "like" or "as". "The surface of the water looks as smooth as glass."
Personification	When human-like characteristics are given to objects or animals. "The car danced across the icy road."
Rhythm	A "beat", or regular pattern of sounds. "One, two, buckle my shoe."
Rhyme	Words that have the same ending sound. "The <u>butterfly</u> flew up into the <u>sky</u> ."
Repetition	Using the same words or phrases over and over. "The snow swirled and swirled in the winter storm."

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