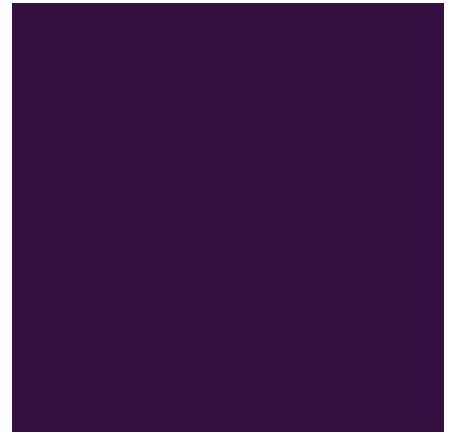
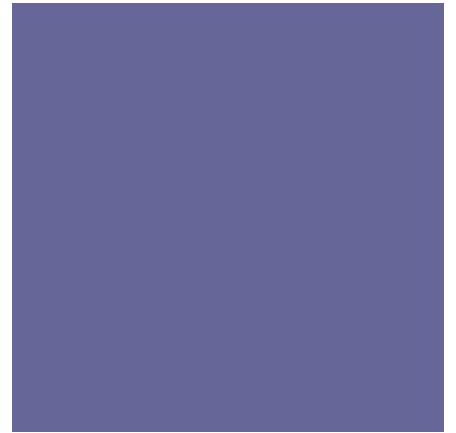
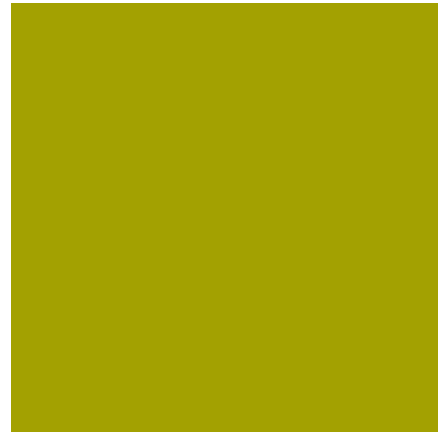




Poetic Techniques

(Poetic Devices
Literary Devices)



+ Stanza

- Two or more lines of poetry that together form one of the divisions of a poem.
- It is the equivalent of a paragraph in a story, however, in a poem it is called a 'stanza'
- It's like a verse in a song
- For example: Robert Frost; "The Road Not Taken"

'Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveller, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;'

+ Imagery



- The use of description to **evoke** ideas, feelings, objects, actions, states of mind
- The use of these tools creates an image in the readers mind
- 'And both that morning equally lay

In leaves no step had trodden black.' Robert Frost

+ Alliteration

- Repetition of the same consonant (non-vowel) sounds at any place but often at the beginning of words
- To help remember this, the word 'alliteration' ends in a consonant
- For example:
 - “**S**he **s**ells **s**eahells by the **s**ea-**s**hore.”
- What effect might this have?
- Produces a pleasing effect to the ear
- Your turn ...



+ Assonance



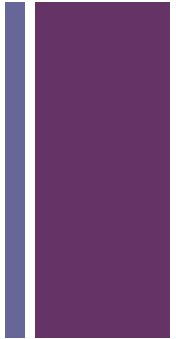
- The repetition of (the same) vowel sounds
- To help remember this, the word 'assonance' ends in a vowel
- Impacts the **tone** (attitude) of the poem
- Broad vowels create a sombre (dull) tone
- For example:

'The **rain** in **Spain** **stays** **mainly** on the **plane**'
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uVmU3iANbgk>

+ Simile

- A simile makes a comparison, showing similarities between two different things
- It draws resemblance
- ***As / like / than***
- Can you give an example?
 - “John is *as* slow *as* a snail”
 - “Her cheeks are red *like* roses”
 - “The baby was lighter *than* a feather”
- Effect of simile:
 - it introduces vividness
 - Helps the reader / listener to imagine the setting better

+ Rhyme



- Repetition of similar sounding words, occurring at the ends of lines
- Makes a poem musical and therefore easier to read
- Helps make a poem easier to remember
- Example:
 - “Under my window, a clean rasping sound
 - When the spade sinks in to the gravelly ground:”
 - Seamus Heaney ‘Digging’