

## Elements of Poetry

**Rhyme:** When the last words in the lines of a poem convey the same sound, the poem uses rhyme. Either the last words of the first and second lines rhyme with each other or alternating lines can rhyme with each other. For example:

Which lines of a poem  
Make a **rhyme**?  
Read it aloud  
And you'll know in **time**!

**Rhythm:** A pattern created within a poem, using long and short sounds, or weak and strong sounds. Rhythm is often created through the syllables in a line and how the words flow within the lines. You can best hear the rhythm of a poem by reading the poem aloud.

The rhythmic pattern in a poem is called *Meter*. All the lines in the poem should follow the pattern.

**Repetition:** When a word, line, or phrase is repeated more than once. A poet may use repetition to establish a rhythm in the poem. When read aloud, the phrase that repeats creates a sound effect that gives the poem rhythm. For example:

**I told him not to do it,**  
But he just turned his head.  
**I told him not to do it,**  
"Get out!" is what he said.  
**I told him not to do it,**  
Now Mom sent him to his bed!

**Figurative Language:** Figurative language is language enriched by word images and figures of speech. Some examples of Figurative Language in a poem might include:

**Metaphor:** A metaphor is a comparison made between objects without using the words "like" or "as." Metaphors can replace one word for another unrelated word.

For example: "His mouth let out a fire truck's siren." In this case, "cry" has been replaced by "fire truck siren."

**Alliteration:** When several words in a sentence begin with the same sound or letter, this is alliteration. When those words are read aloud, it creates a sound effect.

For example:

**Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.**

**Simile:** A statement that compares one thing to another, using "like" or "as." It conveys something that is being described.

For example:

"His cry was **like** a fire truck's siren."

CONCEPTS OF COMPREHENSION: LEAF BY LEAF 4 <sup>th</sup> GRADE UNIT
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*From*

**london voluntaries**

For earth and sky and air

Are golden everywhere,

And golden with a gold so suave and fine

The looking on it lifts the heart like wine

-WILLIAM ERNEST HENLEY

## Elements of Poetry Worksheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Read “London Voluntaries” and identify examples of the following poetic elements: Rhyme, Repetition, and Simile.

1. Poetic Element: Rhyme

Example from Poem:

2. Poetic Element: Rhyme

Example from Poem:

3. Poetic Element: Repetition

Example from Poem:

4. Poetic Element: Simile

Example from Poem: