**Poetry Terms**

**Alliteration**- repetition of beginning sounds of letters

Example: the snake sat upon the stone

**Allusion-** a reference to a historical or literary figure that is well known

Example: Shakespeare, Mickey Mouse, Gandhi, or Apollo

**Hyperbole-** an exaggeration or overstatement

Example: I had a million hours of homework

**Metaphor-** a comparison

Example: She is a tall tree that stands in the forest

**Personification-** when an object has attributes or qualities of a human

Example: The leaves danced

Example: The sun shone down on me as if she was shining for me alone

**Onomatopoeia-** a word that represents a sound

Example: Buzz

**Repetition-**When a word or line is often repeated within a poem

Example: Why? Why? Why?

**Rhyme scheme**- when the poem has a rhyme pattern

Example: she got in the car, but she didn’t go very far

**Rhythm-** a pattern of strong and weak accents or beats

**Simile**- A comparison using “like” or “as”

Example: He was as ugly as the Grinch

**Theme-** the overall meaning or message of a poem

Example: don’t stress over the small stuff

Example- live a simple life in nature

**Imagery-** descriptive words that evoke one of the five senses (sight, smell, touch, sound, and taste)

Example: The orange, red, and yellow in the fire sparkled (visual imagery)

**Stanzas-** the “paragraphs” of the poem

**Lines-** the actual line breaks of the poem

(hint: this does not mean sentences; it means the actual line breaks!

**Volta-** a shift or turning point

**Enjambment-** when you keep reading past the end of the line

**Types of Poems**

**Haiku-** a three lined Japanese poem with 17 syllables (5,7,5), usually about nature

**Ekphrastic poetry-** poetry in response to a piece of art

**Erasure/Found poems-** A type of found poem created by erasing words from an existing text

**Eulogy-** a poem of loss

**Ode-** a poem of praise

**Persona-** a poem from the point of view of an object or another person

**Sonnet-** a 14 lined poem with a set rhyme scheme. Shakespeare wrote many poems in this format.