Poem Detectives

Spotting conventions and cracking meaning in Year 7



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Today we will...



WE ARE LEARNING TO

recognise a range of poetic conventions

explain how conventions shape meaning and feeling

SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

- ✓ I can name conventions I spot with evidence
- ✓ I can explain their effect on the reader

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Poems paint pictures

- Every poem has a subject to write about
- Imagery creates pictures in our mind
- Structure controls rhyme, rhythm, shape, length
- Free verse may not rhyme or keep rhythm

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Simile vs metaphor

Simile

- Compares using like or as
- Example: lonely as a cloud
- Makes a quick, clear picture

Metaphor

- Says one thing is another thing
- Example: the classroom was a zoo
- Feels bolder and more direct



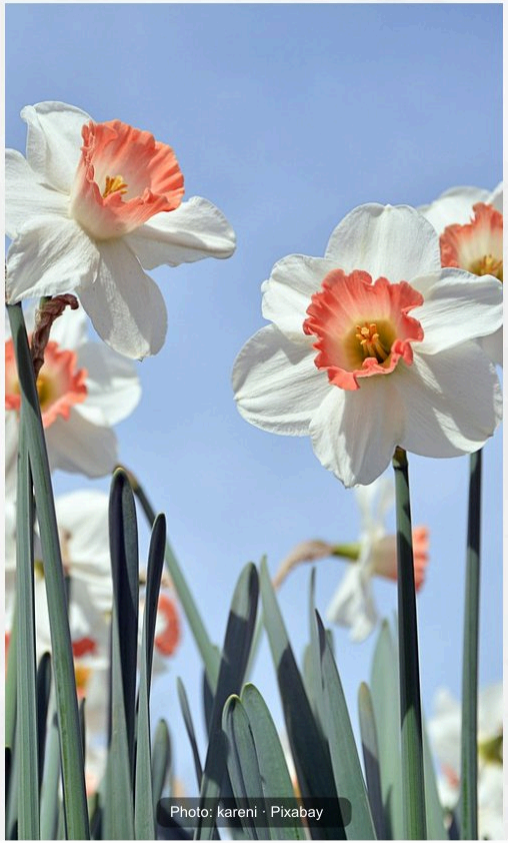


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Think, pair, share



“Beside the lake, beneath the trees, fluttering and dancing in the breeze.” What feeling does this give the daffodils, and how?



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How poems are built



▶ 0:47 – 5:41

- Watch for what a stanza is
- Listen for rhyme and PEEL example



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How a poem unfolds

Title

hints at subject or mood

Opening

establishes ideas and feelings

Middle

builds on with methods and imagery

Ending

ends with message or change

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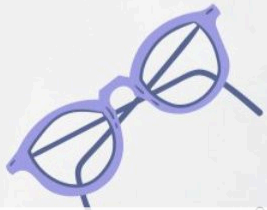
What makes a poem a poem?



▶ 0:00 – 5:20

- Spot three recognisable traits of poetry
- Link each trait to feelings evoked





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Your task



Annotate this mini-poem: Evening mist hugs the lake / like a grey scarf pulled tight / the reeds whisper secrets / till sunrise shakes them light. Spot conventions and explain effects.

1. Underline one image and label simile or personification
2. Note stanza, rhyme or rhythm choice
3. Write: this makes the reader feel... because...

10 min

In pairs

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Key words

simile

comparison using like or as

metaphor

describing one thing as another

personification

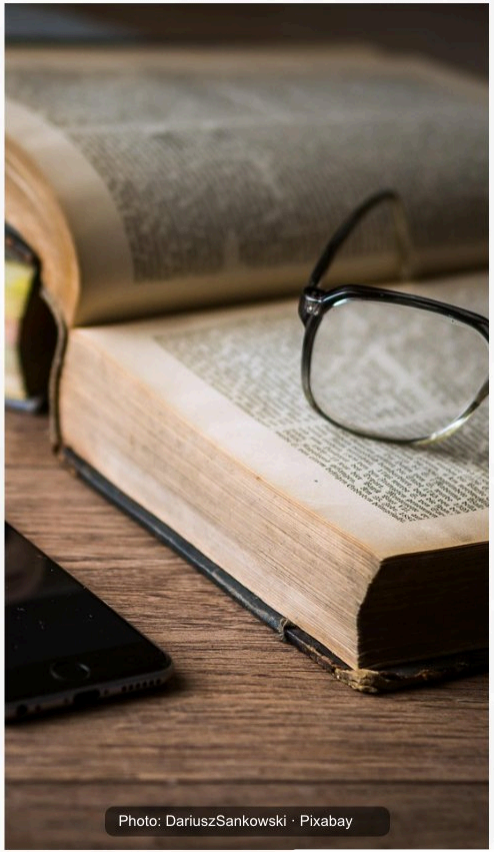
object described as if alive

stanza

grouped lines, like a paragraph

alliteration

same starting sound repeated





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What could this be?

“That fire they said was red, as red, as a fox.” What is described and which convention is used?



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True or false?

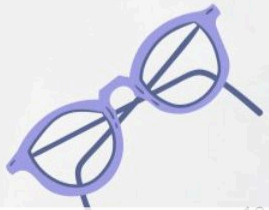
A simile compares using like or as.

Free verse must rhyme and keep regular rhythm.

Personification describes an object as if alive.

Structure is only about tricky vocabulary.





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