

POETRY STUDY SHEET

Prose – writing organized in sentences and paragraphs

Poetry – writing organized in lines and stanzas

Sound and pattern of poetry

free verse – a poem without any specific rhythm or rhyme scheme

rhyme scheme – the pattern of rhyme in a poem based on the last word in a line of poetry. It is labeled using letters of the alphabet.

ex: I do not like green eggs and ham a
I do not like them Sam I am. a
I will not eat them in a box. b
I will not eat them with a fox. b

rhythm - the pattern of stressed (/) or unstressed (u) syllables in a line of poetry

- **Iambic rhythm** – the repeated pattern of “ u / ” syllables in a line of poetry. Iambic rhythm *always begins in an unstressed syllable and ends with a stressed syllable*

u / u / u / u /

ex: I do not like green eggs and ham

Figurative Language

onomatopoeia – a word that makes a sound (ex: smack, swoosh, boom, slap)

simile - a comparison between two things using “like” or “as”

ex: Her mind was *like* a human dictionary

Her skin was *as* red *as* a lobster after she went to the beach

metaphor – a comparison between two things WITHOUT using “like” or “as” where one thing represents the other.

ex: He’s a human computer!

The poem “Steam Shovel” on page 125

Andy taking off his jacket - representing his freedom from the gang in
“On the Sidewalk Bleeding”

allusion – a reference a poet makes to another piece of writing or historical event
ex: “*she really fell down the rabbit hole*” – a reference to Alice in
Wonderland

personification – giving human qualities to inanimate (non-living) objects

imagery – using the 5 senses (taste, touch, sight, smell, hearing) to create vivid
description