

Some Poetic Effects

With Phrasing or Accents

Effect

Straightforward, nothing special

Springing into action

Shock, reversal

Relentless, hammering

Impulsive, quick, capricious

Weighty, dense, slow

Dramatic

Weak, invisible, unsteady

Forceful, abrupt

Musical quality

Choppy, staccato

Try...

Iamb (te TUM)

Trochee (TUM te)

Trochee (TUM te)

Trochee (TUM te)

Anapest (te te TUM)

Spondee (TUM TUM)

Spondee (TUM TUM)

Pyrrhic (te te)

Anacrusis (TUM) at the start of a line, often combined with an extra-syllable ending to make a "dovetail foot."

Carry the foot across two words

Keep the foot within the words

With Meter

Effect

Dance-like sensual quality that goes with rhyme

Song-like or comic quality

Comfortable

Full, stuffed, above and beyond, stretching

Try...

Trimeter

Tetrameter - divides line into two equal halves with a pause in the middle. This pattern is hard to break out of.

Pentameter

Hexameter

With Rhyme

Effect

Closure, finality, the last word

Reduce certainty

Comic

Satiric and clever

Tie lines together

Try...

End rhyme XXXXX fill
XXXXX spill

Light rhyme that matches a stressed syllable
in one word with unstressed in another

XXXXX sing
XXXXXstarling

Weak rhyme starting on a stressed syllable
and ending on an unstressed

XXXXXXX darling
XXXXXX starling

Breaking a rhyme across a line by
hyphenating the word

XXXXXX fate
XXXXXX await-
ing XXXX

Mosaic rhyme - rhyming shorter words
with one multisyllabic word
XXXXXX poet
XXXXXX know it

Internal rhymes

XXX thou XXX cow OR

Hug XXX lug XXX OR

XXXXXX door XXXX
XXX floor XXXX