MAHESH PUBLIC SCHOOL, JODHPUR

Subject: English

Class - IX

Poetic Devices and terms

At its most basic, a poetic device is a deliberate use of words, phrases, sounds, and even shapes to convey meaning. That sounds so broad that it could basically encompass any form of written expression, but poetic devices are generally used to heighten the literal meaning of words by considering sound, form, and function.

• Alliteration

Alliteration is the repetition of a sound or letter at the beginning of multiple words in a series

Example: Slowly the sly snake slithered over the slimy grass.

• Free verse

Poetry that has no rhyme or consistent pattern

Example: The fog comes

on little cat feet.

It sits looking

over harbor and city

on silent haunches

and then moves on.

• Metaphor

Writing about something as if it were something else. The words 'is' and 'are' are used.

Example: The road was a ribbon of moon light.

• Onomatopoeia

The use of words that sound like their meaning.

Example: pop, buzz, splash

• <u>Patterns</u>

When the poems take the shape of the subject it is written about

• Personification

When non human objects are given human actions or emotion

Example: The flowers danced in the breeze.

• Rhyme

Words are used that are similar in sound usually the last syllable of the word

Example: cat and hat, heather and leather

• Rhythm

The tempo or a speed that the poem can be read at.

Example: De dum, de dum, de dum

• Simile

Creating an image in the mind of readers by comparing a subject with something else. The words 'as' or 'like' are used

Example: The sun blazed like an angry fire.

• Stanza

The number of lines in a verse that make the section of the poem

• Assonance

Repetition of the same consonant sound.

Example: The bombs dropped softly on to the hot sand.