metaphor A comparison between two unlike things

simile A comparison of two things using like or as

imagery Descriptive or figurative language in a literary work; the use of language to create sensory impressions.

personification A figure of speech in which an object or animal is given human feelings, thoughts, or attitudes

stanza A fixed number of lines of verse forming a unit of a poem

allusion A brief and indirect reference to a person, place, thing or idea of historical, cultural, literary or political significance.

paradox A figure of speech or statement that seems contradictory but actually contains a hidden truth

metonomy A figure of speech in which the name of one object is substituted for that of another closely associated with it. For example: a news release that claims "The White House declared" rather than "The President declared"

slant rhyme Rhyme in which the vowel sounds are nearly, but not exactly the same (i.e. the words "stress" and "kiss"); sometimes called half-rhyme, near rhyme, or partial rhyme

alliteration It is a stylistic device in which a number of words, having the same first consonant sound, occur close together in a series.

assonance Assonance takes place when two or more words close to one another repeat the same vowel sound but start with different consonant sounds

lyric poem A type of poem characterized by brevity, compression, and the expression of feeling.

free verse Poetry that does not have a regular meter or rhyme scheme

envoi The shorter final stanza of a poem which comments on the rest of the poem

sonnet 14-line lyric poem focused on a single theme; usually written in iambic pentameter

apostrophe A figure of speech that directly addresses an absent or imaginary person or a personified abstraction, such as liberty or love.

elegy a poem of serious reflection, typically a lament for the dead.

enjambment The continuation of a sentence without a pause beyond the end of a line, couplet, or stanza.

caesura A pause in a line of verse, indicated by natural speech patterns rather than due to specific metrical patterns.

synecdoche A figure of speech in which a part is substituted for the whole. (ex: lend me a hand)