

Techniques to Make Sound

Comparative Techniques



Making Sounds in Writing

Composers use many strategies to engage their audience. Using techniques such as alliteration, assonance, and onomatopoeia allow responders to hear words that effectively communicate meaning.

Alliteration - repeated consonant sound at the start of two or more words (slippery snake slithered south - repeated “s” sound).

Assonance - repeated vowel sounds within two or more words (how the cow went brown in the town - repeated long “ow” sound).

Making Sounds in Writing

Onomatopoeia- formation of a word to imitate the sound it refers to (buzz, pop, meow).

Identifying Assonance

Write the following sentence and highlight where assonance is used.

1. Mum was always the one who made it fun.
2. The dog, who was a hog, wouldn't let me near the log.
3. Write two sentences of your own which use alliteration!

Alliteration and Assonance Used in Poetry

My Puppy Punched Me In the Eye

My puppy punched me in the eye.
My rabbit whacked my ear.
My ferret gave a frightful cry
and roundhouse kicked my rear.
My lizard flipped me upside down.
My kitten kicked my head.
My hamster slammed me to the ground
and left me nearly dead.
So my advice? Avoid regrets;
no matter what you do,
don't ever let your family pets
take lessons in kung fu.

-Kenn Nesbitt

Exercise:

1. Read the following poem.
2. **Underline** the alliterative words in each line.
3. **Circle** the assonant words in each line.

Hint: Sometimes words can be *both* alliterative and assonant.

Onomatopoeia in Writing

Word Bank

boom **yowl** **hiss** **purr** **splash**
hoot **quack** **splat**

1. The cat's _____ told me it was happy.
2. Jake made a big _____ when he jumped into the swimming pool.
3. The duck will _____ if it is hungry.
4. I laid in bed and listened to the thunder _____ .
5. Suddenly she heard the _____ of a snake.
6. The lonesome _____ of the coyotes echoed through the hills.
7. My ice cream cone went _____ onto the sidewalk.
8. The _____ of the owl told him someone was coming.