

Glossary:

We expect you to analyse the poems that you read. To help you out, below is a reminder of the various terms you should know.

Metaphor	An assertion that one object is completely a different object. There is no comparison made. Examples: the car sailed down the road, an onion “is a moon wrapped in brown paper”.
Oxymoron	The joining of two words or phrases that appear to be complete opposites in meaning. Example: “feather of lead, bright smoke, cold fire”.
Personification	An inanimate object is given the qualities or actions of a living person or creature. Example: “the car radiators grin”, “the headlights stare”.
Simile	A comparison of two distinctly different objects using the words “like” or “as”. Example: “the peasants came like swarms of flies”.
Alliteration	The repetition of a letter or letter sound at the beginning of a related sequence of words. Example: the gutter gargles and groans
Assonance	The repetition of identical or similar vowel sounds in a sequence of words. Example: s ilent, q uiet, l ight, t ime.
Onomatopoeia	The sound of a word reflects the sound that it describes. Examples: plop, fizz, splash, hiss.
Enjambment	When the meaning of one line runs into the next line, there is no punctuation at the end of the line.
End-stopped line	A full-stop or colon at the end of a line. Used in combination with enjambment.
Free verse	A poem that has no regular rhyme scheme, rhythm or stanza length.
End rhyme	The rhyme occurs at the end of a line
Internal rhyme	The rhyme occurs in the middle of a verse line. Example: in mist or <u>cloud</u> , on mast or <u>shroud</u> .

Remember, you should not only be able to identify the poetic devices used, but you should also talk about the effect they have on the poem!