

THE ELEMENTS OF POETRY



BRAINWORKS

Berkshire Regional Arts Integration Network

brainworks.mcla.edu

SOUND

The creation of meaning with sound, often through the use of onomatopoeia, assonance, consonance, alliteration, and more.

RHYTHM

The beat of the poem, created through pattern, repetition, rhyme, syllables, and more.

STRUCTURE

The organization of ideas. Some poems are free verse, others follow a specific form. Intentional line breaks and use of space on the page create meaning.

DENSITY

What is said (or can be said) in the space; density distinguishes poetry from regular speech and prose.

IMAGERY

Precise word choices and figurative language create an image in the reader's mind by evoking the senses and imagination.