Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Blk \_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Glossary of Poetic Devices

**Alliteration** – the repetition of consonant/vowel sounds at the beginning of words close together.

Ex: Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.

**Figurative Language** – the words a poet uses to describe one thing by comparing it to something else with which we are more familiar.

***Metaphor*** – a statement that compares one thing or image to another without using “like” or “as”.

Example: Sunshine is happiness.

***Simile*** – the comparison between one thing and another using the word “like” or “as”.

Example: Hew was as tall as the Empire State Building.

**Imagery**  - the use of sensory details or images that appeal to one or more of the five senses.

**Line Break** – used in poetry at the end of each line, intended to show a slight pause when reading the poem.

**Meter** – the pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables in a verse creating a distinctive rhythm.

***Blank verse*** – an unrhymed verse

***Free verse*** – poetry that does not follow a set pattern or form and is usually irregular in line length

**Onomatopoeia** – words that capture the sounds they describe.

Example: Crash, Boom, Bang

**Personification** – giving human qualities, feelings, actions or characteristics to non-human things.

Example: The desk was standing on its legs.

**Refrain** – a line or lines that are repeated in a poem.

**Repetition** – sounds, words, phrases, or structures used again and again in a poem, usually for musical effect or enhanced meaning.

**Rhyme** – the repetition of the same or similar vowel and consonant sounds in two or more words, usually at the end of words.

Example: pig/fig; griddle/sizzle

**Rhythm** – the pattern of beats or stresses in a line of poetry conveying its sense of movement or sound.

**Stanza** – the division in a poem named for the number of lines in it contains.

**Theme** – the general topic or subject of a poem or poet’s message.

**White space** – the blank space on a page of poetry created by how the words are grouped by the poet.