Fung Kai Liu Man Shek Tong Secondary School S1 English 2016-2017

Poems

Glossary of Terms

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The following glossary has been prepared for a quick reference.

1. Stanza (詩的) 節,段

 A grouping of lines in a poem, set off by a space in the text. The stanza is a structural unit in verse composition similar to a paragraph in prose.

2. Rhyme 押韻

- The correspondence in sound or word-endings, usually at the ends of lines of poetry, and usually forming part of a stanza pattern.
- For example,

He lies on the sandy **shores**, So quiet, so quiet, he scarcely **snores**. (James Reeves, "The Sea", p.39)

3. Alliteration 頭韻(尤指詩歌中一組詞以發音相同的輔音開頭)

- The repetition of the same initial sound(s) in two or more words of a line or closely adjacent lines.
- For example,

<u>B</u>etty <u>B</u>otter <u>b</u>ought some <u>b</u>utter, <u>B</u>ut, as she said, this <u>b</u>utter's <u>b</u>itter: (Anonymous, "Bitter Butter", p.62)

4. Metaphor 隱喻;暗喻

- An analogy identifying one object with another. Through ascribing the qualities of one object to another, the idea or image expressed is enhanced in vividness, complexity, or breath of implication.
- For example,

You are a cozy comfy house,

Always making me feel welcomed. (Frances Yao Tong, "You are ...", p.7)

5. Simile 明喻

• A comparison of one thing with another, explicitly announced by the word 'like' or 'as', as in 'You're as free **as a bird**'.

6. Repetition 重複

- Reiteration of a word, sound, phrase or idea to achieve certain stylistic effects.
- For example,

I've got a radio,

I play it all day.

I've got a radio,

Hey! Hey! Hey!

(Charles Thomason, "I've Got a", p.54)

7. Onomatopoeia 擬聲法;擬聲詞,象聲詞

- The use of words to imitate sounds.
- For example,

'Bang' and 'Crash' are examples of onomatopoeia that mimic loud noises.

Onomatopoeia also includes sound made by animals, such as the 'quack' of a duck and the 'meow' of a cat.

8. Personification 擬人法

- A figure of speech in which an inanimate object, animate nonhuman, or abstract quality is given human attributes.
- For example,

The bowl of ice-cream **called out to me!** (This means the bowl of ice-cream looked so good that the writer felt it was inviting him to eat it.)

9. Rhyme Scheme 韻律

- The arrangement of rhyming words, usually at the ends of lines, though sometimes internally, which gives the poem its characteristic pattern.
- For example, the first stanza of Allan Ahlberg's "Billy McBone" (p.71) has the rhyme scheme aabccb:

Billy McBone a
Had a mind of his own, a
Which he mostly kept under his hat. b
The teachers all thought c
That he couldn't be taught, c
But Bill didn't seem to mind that. b

10. Rhythm 節奏

 The sense of movement communicated by the regular recurrence of stressed and unstressed sounds.

11. Theme 主題

• The central idea of a literary work.

12. Lyric 抒情詩

• A poem written in simple and direct style marked by imagination and personal emotions. It is melodic with a strong musical element.

13. Couplet 對句

- Two successive lines of verse with end rhymes.
- For example,

And perhaps in the spring

He would come back and sing.

(Robert Frost, "The Last Word of a Bluebird (as Told to a Child)", p.49)

14. Free Verse 自由體詩(沒有固定格律)

- A poetic form with no regular principle of arrangement, whether in line length, rhyme or stanza pattern.
- For example,

Whampoa Estate, the place, in Hunghom:

We have lived there for a year.

Every day at 3 o'clock,

No more monkeys,

No more dolphins.

(So Wai Man, Ruby, "Autobiographical Note", p.56)

15. Mood 心境,心情

- The general atmosphere.
- It is similar in meaning to tone, but a distinction can be drawn before the two. It reflects the attitude of the author towards the subject while tone expresses the attitude of the author towards the audience.

16. Symbol 代表,象徵

- A figure of speech in which something (object, person, situation of action) means more than what it is.
- The colour green, for example, often stands for the time of fresh leaves and grass, the spring, and therefore indirectly for youth and love.

17. Tone 語氣;語調

• A reflection of the author's towards his audience.

18. Irony 反語;諷刺

• The use of words or statements to convey an implication contrary to what is stated literally.