

# Glossary of Terms

## Poetry – Power and Conflict Cluster

### Glossary of Terms

Technique or key term	Definition
Pantheism	Belief that nature is God (most romantic poets thought this)
Anaphora	Sentences start in same way for emphasis eg, London
Tautology	Deliberately repeating something twice for effect or saying something in the same way using different words for emphasis
Personification	Giving an inanimate object human features or characteristics
Quatrain	Set of four lines – usually alternative rhythm
Despot	A ruler who has absolute power
Parenthesis	Addition of extra information
Pathetic fallacy	Using weather to reflect mood or tone of poem
Free verse	Poetry without set rhyme or rhythm
Octave	First 8 lines in an Italian sonnet
Sestet	Set of 6 lines in the second division of a sonnet
Sonnet	14 line poem, usually connected with the theme of love

Euphemism	Mild or indirect word substituted for one considered to be too harsh or blunt (esp when referring to unpleasant or embarrassing)
Romantic poets	Poets who rebel against industrialisation and government/authority. Seek to individuality and nature
Enjambment	When a line runs on in poetry – usually causes pace to slow down
Caesura	Complete pause in a line of poetry
Volta	Shift in move in a sonnet or other poetry
Proletariat	Working class people regarded collectively
Ambiguity	Language which is deliberately vague
Plosive sounds	Alliterative harsh p b and d sounds
Oxymoron	Two opposing ideas next to each other
Antithesis	Opposing ideas within a text
Juxtaposition	The fact of two things being seen or placed close together with contrasting effect
Superlative	Of the highest quality – usually ends in ...est
Imperative	A command
Motif	A recurring theme present throughout the text

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Parataxis	Use of short sentences or clauses, one after another without conjunctions
Synaesthesia	Sensual imagery, linking one sense to another, sparking sensual response
syndetic list	Using conjunctions to join clauses
Asyndetic list	Using commas to separate items in a list
En media res	Starting a poem in the middle of the action
Assonance	Repetition of same or similar vowel sounds
Polemic	Political attack or message
Verisimilitude	The appearance of being true or real
Diatribes	Verbal attack
Staccato	Shortened and detached rhythm
Refrain	Verse repeated, at intervals

Rondo	Poem with circular structure – begins and ends similarly
Epiphora	Word or phrase repeated at the end of successive clauses
Declarative mood	used to express a statement
Interrogative	Sentence which poses a question
Exclamatory	Mood of strong emotions
Monologue	single character addressing silent audience
Fricative sound	Alliterative f and v sounds
iambic pentameter	One unstressed syllable followed by one stressed - rhythm
Temporal connectives	Time indicators