

PHONETIC EXPRESSIVE MEANS AND THE NATURE
STYLISTIC DEVICES

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Abstract: This article deals with the analysis of phonetic stylistic devices and expressive means in the works of poets. Examples from poetry are given in this research work and they are of great importance for learning stylistics

Keywords: - Stylistics, poetry, phonetic stylistic devices, onomatopoeia, alliteration, rhyme, sound.

INTRODUCTION

I.R.Galperin divides expressive means and stylistic devices into three groups: phonetic, lexical and syntactical. Phonetic expressive means and stylistic devices include onomatopoeia, alliteration, rhyme and rhythm. Onomatopoeia refers to words that sound exactly or almost exactly like the thing that they represent. Many words that we use for animal or machine noises are onomatopoeia words, such as “moo” for the sound a cow makes and “beepbeep” for the noise of a car horn. Words like “slurp,” “bang,” and “crash” are also onomatopoeia words. Even some ordinary words like “whisper” and “jingling” are considered onomatopoeia because when we speak them out loud, they make a sound that is similar to the noise that they describe [13, 1].

Poetry often uses onomatopoeia words because they are so descriptive. This type of word helps us to imagine the story or scene that is happening in the poem. Here are two examples that show how famous poets have used onomatopoeia in their poems. In the excerpts of the poem “Meeting at night” by Robert Browning, the onomatopoeia words are underlined [1, 1]. For example Three fields to cross till a farm appears; A tap at the pane, the quick sharp scratch And blue spurt of a lighted match...

The next example is from the poem “Gathering leaves” by Robert Frost [4,3]. I make a great noise rustling all day Like rabbit and deer Running away.

The following lines are taken from famous poem “The bells” by Edgar Allan Poe” that use onomatopoeia [9, 3]. For example: Hear the sledges with the bells—Silver bells! What a world of merriment their melody foretells!

How they tinkle, tinkle, tinkle,

In the icy air of night!

Alliteration is the recurrence of an initial consonant sound in two or more words which

either follow each other or appear close enough to be noticeable. Functions of alliteration are to consolidate effect, to heighten the general aesthetic effect, to impart a melodic effect to the utterance, emphasis and mnemonic effects. Shel Silverstein frequently used alliteration in his poems for children to create a fanciful tone, even when it meant creating nonsense words. "The Gnome, The Gnat, & The Gnu" repeats the "gn" sound throughout the verse.

I saw an ol' gnome

Take a gknock at a gnat

Who was g nibbling the gnose of his gnu. I said, "Gnasty gnome, Gnow, stop doing that. That gnat ain't done gnothing to you." He gnodded his gnarled ol' head and said,

"'Til gnow I gnever gnew

That gknocking a gnat

In the gnoodle like that

Was gnot a gnice thing to do."

William Shakespeare's work frequently featured alliteration. There are several examples in *Romeo and Juliet*, but his poetry often used alliteration too. In "Sonnet 5," for example, the "b" sound in beauty, bareness, and bereft set a romantic tone. In the last line, the "s" in show, substance, and sweet provide a soothing rhythm [10, 4]:

For never-resting time leads summer on To hideous winter and confounds him there, Sap checked with frost and lusty leaves quite gone, Beauty o'er-snowed and bareness everywhere. Then were not summer's distillation left, A liquid prisoner pent in walls of glass, Beauty's effect with beauty were bereft, Nor it nor no remembrance what it was. But flowers distilled, though they with winter meet,

Leese but their show; their substance still lives sweet. "Birches" by Robert Frost repeats the "b" sound throughout the first four lines to emphasize the dominant theme of the poem [5, 1]. For example: When I see birches bend to left and right Across the lines of straighter darker trees, I like to think some boy's been swinging them.

But swinging doesn't bend them down to stay. "Much Madness Is Divinest Sense" by Emily Dickinson uses alliteration of the "m" sound in the title [3, 5]. This is repeated in the poem itself to encourage readers to contemplate what it means to be mad. Much Madness is divinest Sense - To a discerning Eye - Much Sense - the starkest Madness - 'Tis the Majority In this, as All, prevail - Assent - and you are sane - Demur - you're straightway dangerous - And handled with a Chain - "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" is Samuel Taylor Coleridge's longest poem, featuring rhythmic groupings of alliteration throughout. In the following excerpt, cheered/cleared/kirk, sun/sea/shone, beat/breast/bassoon, red/rose, and merry/minstrelsy are examples of alliterative devices [2, 2]. For example: The ship was cheered, the harbour cleared, Merrily did we drop Below the kirk, below the hill, Below the lighthouse top. The Sun came up upon the left, Out of the sea came he!

And he shone bright, and on the right
Went down into the sea.
Higher and higher every day,
Till over the mast at noon-'
The Wedding-Guest here beat his breast,
For he heard the loud bassoon.
The bride hath paced into the hall,
Red as a rose is she;
Nodding their heads before her goes
The merry minstrelsy.

Thomas Hardy creates rhythm in his poem "In a Whispering Garden" by combining several examples of alliteration, such as the "s" sound in spirit, speaking, spell, spot, splendid, and soul [6, 1]. "Gaunt gray gallery" is another alliterative phrase that allows the reader to immediately conjure a visual image of the poem's setting [14,1]

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