

Poetry Worksheet

Alliteration, Onomatopoeia, and Hyperbole

Finding the alliteration

Alliteration is defined as (repeated first letters or sounds in words). In each of the following extracts from the poems below, there are obvious uses of alliteration. Underline the letters that form the alliteration.

- 1) Listen to the lions R-O-A-R!
Hear the leopard cry for gore,
Willy willy willy wah HOO!
[“The Kallyope Yell” by Vachel Lindsay]
- 2) I wakened on my hot, hard bed
Upon the pillow lay my head;
[“The Watch” by Frances Comford]
- 3) One thousand times one hundred is one hundred thousand,
One thousand times one thousand is one million
[“Memory from Childhood” by Antonio Machado]
- 4) Packed in like feathers,
The big bones and the little bones
[“The Fish” by Elizabeth Bishop]
- 5) Such sharpness shows the sweetest FREND:
Such cuttings rather heal than REND:
And such beginnings touch their END.
[“Paradise” by George Herbert]
- 6) Dawn and, distant, the steel-snarl and lyric
Of the chain-saw in deep woods:
I wake. Was it
Trunk-scream, bough-rip and swish, then earth-thud?
No-only the saw’s song, the saw
Sings: now! Sings:
Now, now, now, in the
Lash and blood-lust of an eternal present, the present
Murders the past, the nerve shrieks, the saw
[“Chain Saw at Dawn in Vermont in Time of Drouth” by
Robert Penn Warren]

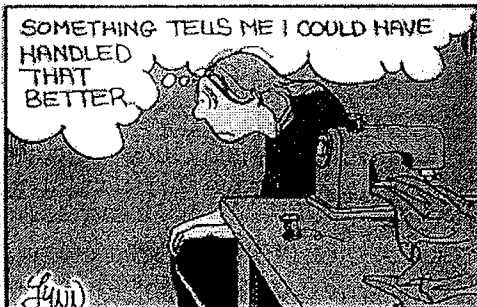
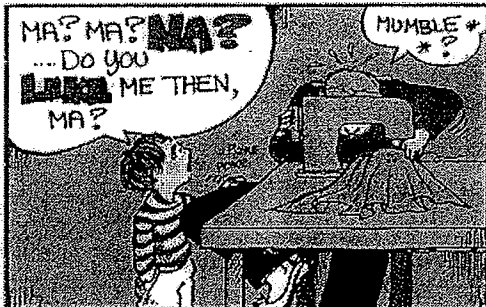
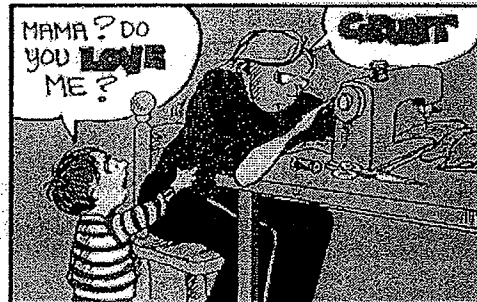
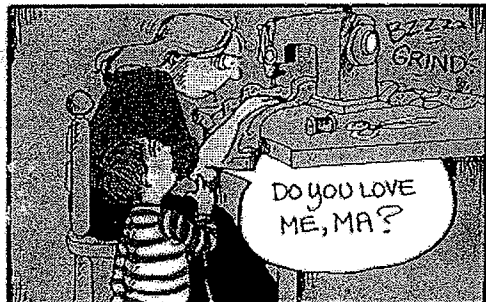
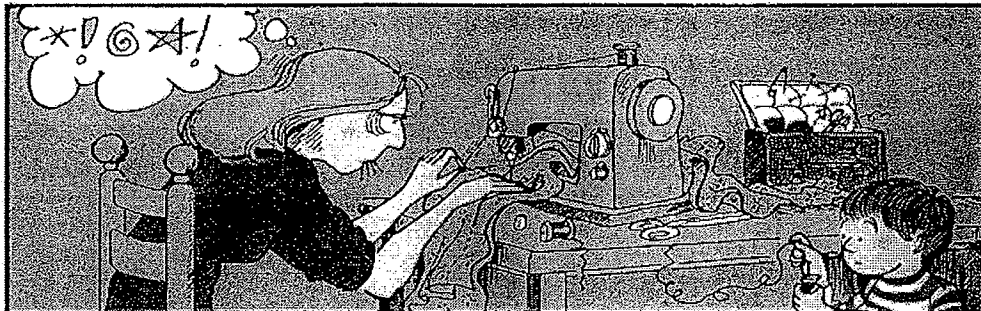
Onomatopoeia

Onomatopoeia is the formation and use of words that suggest by their sounds the objects or idea being named.

Read through the comics and then write down the sound-words. When you have done this, write down the action or occurrence each of the sound-words is representing

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Here are some onomatopoeia words:

Thud	splatter	splash	fizz	drip
Mumble	tinkle	clang	rattle	squelch
Rumble	thump	chirp	shuffle	crunch
Slash	screech	bong	flip	chatter
Boom	flutter	throb	hiss	murmur
Whizz	slam	slurp	twang	sizzle
Crackle	whallop	slither	ooze	clatter
Plop	bump	giggle	pop	ping
gurgle				

Some Sound Exercises

Everyday Sound-words

Write down the sound-words for each of these actions taken from our daily lives.

- 1) A soccer ball being kicked
- 2) A door being closed
- 3) A computer being turned on
- 4) A crow on your lawn
- 5) A car turned on
- 6) A plate landing on the floor
- 7) A sound a whistle makes
- 8) The rain landing on a roof
- 9) The noise the crosswalk sign makes to let you know when to cross the road
- 10) A car stopping suddenly
- 11) A tennis ball being bounced
- 12) A basketball being bounced

Hyperbole

Hyperbole is an exaggeration or overstatement. It puts a picture into the "reader" mind. Hyperbole is frequently used in humorous writing. Hyperbole can make a point in a light-hearted way. It can be used to poke fun at someone or something.

Hyperbole Activity

Complete the following phrases.

Example: His feet were as big as a barge

His head is as big as the Statue of Liberty.

- 1) His hands were as small as
- 2) The town where I grew up is so isolated,
- 3) Your sister is so tiny,
- 4) My ESL teacher is so old,
- 5) Vancouver rains so much,
- 6) The school is so cold
- 7) The mall is so busy on Boxing Day,
- 8) My dog is so ugly,
- 9) Our library is so old,
- 10) My girlfriend is so popular,
- 11) My best friend is so smart,
- 12) The teacher is so tall,
- 13) The ESL test was so hard,
- 14) My Math test is so easy,
- 15) My classmate is so mean,