

## 5-Sound devices:

The use of specific vowels, consonants, stress pattern and the combination of these three make up the sound of a poem. Most poetry is composed to be read aloud. Sound devices create the “music” of the poem and influence the reader/listener’s perception of the poem both intellectually and emotionally.

a\***Rhyme**: matching sounds at the end of lines of verse which create audible sense of pattern. Rhyme is one of the most striking and obvious differences between verse and prose.

### **NB:**

Rhyme might have many effects on a poem. It can, for instance, make a poem sound pleasing to ear and can do just the opposite.

\***Rhyme scheme**: the pattern established by the arrangement of rhymes in a stanza or poem, generally described by using letters of the alphabet to denote the recurrence of rhyming lines.

°The rhyme scheme of a poem is written in small letters, with “a” indicating the first end rhyme sound, “b” the second and so on. The same sounds receive the same letter.

**Ex:** Bid me to weep, and I will weep (a)  
While I have eyes to see; (b)  
And having none, yet I will keep (a)  
A heart to weep for thee. (b) { thee=you (m)}

**Ex:** {the perfect rhyme in a poem}  
If a poem could cost a dime, (a)  
I will spend my ink and spend my time (a)  
Making the perfect rhyme. (a)

b\***Alliteration**: It is the repetition of the same consonant sounds at the beginning of words that are near each other in a poem.

**Ex1:** of “p” sound, /p/, as in “Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers”.  
“The poor people of Paris”.

**Ex 2:** of “w” sound, /w/, as in “There lived a wife at Usher’s Well,  
And a wealthy wife was she...”

c\***Assonance**: the repetition of the same vowel sound within words in a line of a poem in order to achieve a particular effect.

**Ex:** of “u” sound, /u/, as in “cool blue lewd dupe”.