Department of English Language and Literature

First year LMD students Literary Texts

The parts of the poem:

1. Speaker 6- Diction
2. Audience 7- Imagery
3. Subject 8- Figures of speech
4. Tone 9- Sound devices
5. Theme 10- Rhythm
6. **Speaker** is the created narrative voice i.e. the person the reader is supposed to imagine is speaking.

The speaker is not necessarily the poet. He invents a speaker to give himself more freedom in order to compose the poem.

When the poet creates another character to be the speaker, this character is called persona

* Persona is a character created by the poet to narrate the poem.
1. **Audienc**e is the person or persons to whom the speaker is speaking.

There are different persons the speaker can address in the poem:

-The speaker can address another character in the poem.

-The speaker can address a character who is not present or dead.

-The speaker can address the reader.

**3- Subject** is the general or specific topic of the poem.

**4-Tone** is poet’s attitude towards the subject of the poem.

-The tone can be identified through the poet’s use of poetic devices such as diction, rhythm, and syntax.

**5-Theme**: the statement the poet makes about the poem’s subject.

1. Diction: the poet’s word choice.

-The poet chooses the words carefully so that its meaning and sound contribute to the tone and feeling of the poem. The poet must consider:

**a- Denotation**: the word’s dictionary meaning

**b- Connotation:** the emotions, thoughts and ideas associated with and evoked by the word.

**Syntax:** the organisation of words, phrases and clauses; word order.

1. **Imagery:** words and phrases used to help the reader to imagine one of the senses: smell, touch, sight, hearing, and taste.
* Types of imagery:
1. Olfactory imagery stimulates the sense of smell.
2. Tactile imagery stimulates the sense of touch.
3. Visual imagery stimulates the sense of sight.
4. Auditory imagery stimulates the sense of hearing.
5. Gustatory imagery stimulates the sense of taste.
6. **Figure of speech** is an expression in which the words are used in a nonliteral sense to present a picture, image or figure.

A figure of speech is the use of language that deviates from the obvious or common usage to achieve a special meaning or effect.

1. Simile: an explicit comparison between two unrelated things indicating a likeness between them.
2. Metaphor: an implicit comparison between two unrelated things indicating a likeness between them. It does not use “like” or “as” to indicate the comparison.
3. Personification: giving human characteristics to inanimate objects, ideas or animals.
4. Synecdoche: mentioning the part to represent the whole.
5. **Rhythm/meter**: the pattern of unstressed stressed syllables established in a line of poetry.

The process of identifying meter is called scansion.

* A foot is unit of the meter that consists of two or three syllables.

Types of Metrical Feet:

1. Iamb: a foot that consists of two syllables: unstressed+ stressed.
2. Trochee: a foot that consists of two syllables: stressed + unstressed.
3. Spondee: a foot that consists of two stressed syllables.
4. Pyrrhic: a foot that consists of two unstressed syllables.
5. Dactyl: a foot that consists of three syllables: stressed+ unstressed+ unstressed.
6. Anapest: a foot that consists of three syllables: unstressed+ unstressed +stressed.

Types of metrical lines:

1. Monometer: a one-foot line.
2. Dimeter: a two-foot line.
3. Trimeter: a three-foot line.
4. Tetrameter: a four-foot line.
5. Pentameter: a five-foot line.
6. Hextameter: a six-foot line.
7. Heptameter: a seven-foot line.
8. Octometer: an eight-foot line.
9. **Sound Devices**:
10. Rhyme: the similarity of likeness of sound existing between two words.
* The rhyme can be true that consists of identical sounding syllables but the consonants preceding the vowels should be different.
* The rhyme scheme is the pattern or sequence in which the rhyme occurs.
1. Alliteration: the repetition of the same initial consonant in a sequence of nearby words.
2. Assonance: the repetition of the same vowel in a sequence of nearby words.
3. Consonance: the repetition of the same consonant. The repeated consonant, unlike alliteration, is not limited to the initial position.
4. Refrain: the repetition of one or more phrases or lines at intervals in a poem, usually at the end of the stanza.