Poetry I

AP English Literature and Composition · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
structure /ˈstrʌktʃə/	The **structure** of this sentence is subject, verb, object.
figurative language /ˈfɪgjərətɪv ˈlæŋgwɪdʒ/	Metaphors and similes are **figurative language**.
bias /ˈbaɪəs/	A program trained on unfair data can show **bias**.
omission	The **omission** of the mother's name is meaningful.
line break /laɪn breɪk/	The **line break** makes the reader pause.
stanza	A **stanza** is a group of lines in a poem.
syntax /ˈsɪntæks/	**Syntax** is the order of words in a sentence.
rhythm /ˈrɪðəm/	English has a strong **rhythm**: big words are loud, small words are quick.
contrast /ˈkɒntræst/	There is a strong **contrast** between light and dark.
tone /təʊn/	The writer's hopeful **tone** shows in the last sentence.
shift /ʃɪft/	A **shift** in the poem's mood happens in the last stanza.
juxtaposition /ˌdʒʌkstəpəˈzɪʃn/	**Juxtaposition** places two very different things side by side.
antecedent /ˌæntɪˈsiːdənt/	In "The students said they were tired", "students" is the **antecedent** of "they". "The students said they were tired" "students" "they"

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referent /ˈrefrənt/	Find the **referent**: what does “it” mean here? “it”
ambiguous /æmˈbɪgjuːəs/	The ending is **ambiguous**: it has more than one meaning.
interpretation /ɪnˌtɜːprɪˈteɪʃn/	Give your own **interpretation** of the poem.
repetition /ˌrepəˈtɪʃn/	Avoid **repetition**: do not use the same word again and again.
association /əˌsəʊsɪˈeɪʃn/	The colour red has an **association** with danger.
alliteration /əˌlɪtəˈreɪʃn/	“Sally sells sea shells” uses **alliteration**. “Sally sells sea shells”
simile /ˈsɪmɪlɪ/	“As brave as a lion” is a **simile**. “As brave as a lion”
main subject	In “Love is a rose”, love is the **main subject**. “Love is a rose”
comparison subject	In “Love is a rose”, the rose is the **comparison subject**. “Love is a rose”
metaphor /ˈmetəfɔː/	“Time is a thief” is a **metaphor**. “Time is a thief”
couplet	A **couplet** is two lines that rhyme.
thesis /ˈθiːsɪs/	Your **thesis** states your main argument.
enjambment	**Enjambment** lets a sentence run on to the next line.
rhyme	“Cat” and “hat” **rhyme**. “Cat” “hat”
sonnet	A **sonnet** has fourteen lines.

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Word	Example
volta	The **volta** is the turn in a sonnet.

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