



‘A Refusal to Mourn the Death, by Fire, of a Child in London’ by Dylan Thomas

Lesson 5 Overview:

By the end of this lesson, I will:

- Understand more about the form of the poem and the poetic devices used.
- Appreciate how form and poetic devices are used to convey the poet’s message.



Lesson 5 Resource Sheet Task 1 – Pair Work

Examine the form/structure of the poem:

1. How many lines are there in each stanza?
2. Can you split each stanza up into a smaller unit?
3. What is the rhyme scheme?
4. How many syllables are there in each line?



Lesson 5 Resource Sheet Task 2

Think-Pair-Share

What is the effect of the poem's structure on the mood of the poem?



Lesson 5 Resource Sheet Task 3 – Pair work

In pairs, link the poetic device with the correct definition

Device	Definition
1. Alliteration	a. The repetition of vowel sounds within a phrase
2. Metaphor	b. Mixing the senses; one sense described as if it were another.
3. Personification	c. Where one thing is described as if it were another
4. Assonance	d. The repetition of same sound or letter at the beginning of words in a phrase
5. Synaesthesia	e. Making an object/idea do something only a human can do



Lesson 5 Resource Sheet Task 3 – Answer

In pairs, link the poetic device with the correct definition

Device

Definition

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1. Alliteration | a. The repetition of vowel sounds within a phrase |
| 2. Metaphor | b. Mixing the senses; one sense described as if it were another. |
| 3. Personification | c. Where one thing is described as if it were another |
| 4. Assonance | d. The repetition of same sound or letter at the beginning of words in a phrase |
| 5. Synaesthesia | e. Making an object/idea do something only a human can do |
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Lesson 5 Resource Sheet Task 4 – Pair Work

In pairs, complete the table with examples of each poetic device. A few starter examples are given. Then consider the effect of each device, that is, how they help convey the poem's message.

Poetic device	Example	Effect
Alliteration	the last light breaking	
Metaphor	sow my salt seed	