



Lesson 5: 'A Refusal to Mourn the Death, by Fire, of a Child in London'

Task 1 – Form / structure of poem

In pairs, examine the form of the poem:

1. How many **lines** are there in each stanza?

2. Can you **split each stanza up** into a smaller unit? How many lines are there in each unit?

3. What is the **rhyme scheme**?

4. How many **syllables** are there in each line?



Task 2 – Think – Pair – Share

What is the effect of the poem's structure on the **mood** of the poem? Write down your ideas below, discuss with your partner and then share your ideas with the class:

Task 3

In pairs, link the poetic device with the correct definition

Device

1. Alliteration
2. Metaphor
3. Personification
4. Assonance
5. Synaesthesia

Definition

- a. The repetition of vowel sounds within a phrase
- b. Mixing the senses; one sense described as if it were another.
- c. Where one thing is described as if it were another
- d. The repetition of same sound or letter at the beginning of words in a phrase
- e. Making an object/idea do something only a human can do



Task 4

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 poem's message.

Poetic device	Example	Effect
Alliteration	the last light breaking	
Metaphor	sow my salt seed	
Personification	the unmourning water of the riding Thames	
Assonance	the mankind making...	
Synaesthesia	tells ... the last light breaking the shadow of a sound	