

The Ceiling

by Theodore Roethke

Suppose the Ceiling went Outside

And then caught Cold and Up and Died?

The only Thing we'd have for Proof

That he was Gone, would be the Roof;

I think it would be Most Revealing

To find out how the Ceiling's Feeling.

The Hippo

by Theodore Roethke

A Head or Tail--which does he lack?

I think his Forward's coming back!

He lives on Carrots, Leeks and Hay;

He starts to yawn--it takes All Day--

Some time I think I'll live that way.

There is no frigate like a book *by Emily Dickinson*

There is no frigate like a book

To take us lands away,

Nor any coursers like a page

Of prancing poetry.

This traverse may the poorest take

Without oppress of toll;

How frugal is the chariot

That bears a human soul!

The Woodpecker *by Emily Dickinson*

His bill an auger is,

His head, a cap and frill.

He laboreth at every tree,--

A worm his utmost goal.

Some Musical Devices in Poetry

repetition of sounds

alliteration

rhyme

patterns of rhyme

adjacent lines

every other line, full rhyme, partial rhyme

meter (mostly **duple** -- test it out)

_____ meter

Mary had a little lamb

its fleece was white as snow

rhythm -- patterns of **stressed and unstressed** syllables

_____ meter

Twas the night before Christmas

when all through the house

foot -- a unit of a pattern

When one analyzes a poem, a common question is: how many feet are in each line of this poem?

ASSIGNMENT DUE JANUARY 7th, 2020

Choose a narrative or description you have written thus far and adapt it to poetic rhythm and meter. An alternate subject is to write something about winter. Either poem can be as short as 2 stanzas of 4 lines each since poetry is often pithy. *But* if you choose to adapt a narrative, make certain that the important elements of your prose passage are still contained in the poetry. Then print out your poem with spaces between the lines and mark the accented and unaccented syllables and the feet.

IF YOU USED A CONSTANT NUMBER OF SYLLABLES PER LINE, ANSWER THESE:

I used _____ syllables per line

I used _____ meter (duple or triple)

I used _____ feet per line (number of syllables divided by 2 or 3)

I used rhyme _____(where?)

OR, IF YOU USED LINES OF VARYING LENGTH, ANSWER THESE:

I varied between _____ and _____ syllables per line.

I used _____ meter (duple or triple)

I used _____ feet per line (number of syllables divided by 2 or 3)

AND _____ feet per line.

I used this rhyme scheme: _____

Poetry, like music, needs to be heard to be appreciated. More than ever, it is important to read your writing aloud to be able to listen to the sounds and rhythms of it.

_____ I read my poem aloud, to myself, and to a family member.