

SOUND

“The sound must seem
an echo to the sense.”

--Alexander Pope

SOUND

- *Euphony* = The harmonious effect when the sounds of words connect with the meaning in a way pleasing to the ear and mind.
- *Cacophony* = A harsh, discordant sound; the opposite of euphony.
- *Onomatopoeia* = An attempt to represent a thing or action by a word that imitates the sound associated with it.

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- *Alliteration* = The repetition of a consonant sound.
- *Assonance* = The repetition of a vowel sound.
- *Rime* = Two or more words that contain an identical or similar vowel and consonant sound. Rimes can be *exact* or *slant*. Sometimes a rime appears at the end of lines (*end rime*); more often, it appears within lines (*internal rime*).

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- Specimen: “The splendor falls on castle walls”
by Alfred, Lord Tennyson
- Specimen: “Leda and the Swan”
by William Butler Yeats

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Checklist on Sound Effects

- List the main auditory elements you find in the poem.
 - Look for rime, alliteration, assonance, euphony, cacophony, onomatopoeia.
- Is there a pattern in your list?
- How do the sound effects help communicate the poem's main theme?
- How does the sound of the words add to the poem's mood?

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- Specimen: “God’s Grandeur”
by Gerard Manley Hopkins
- Specimen: “Desert Places”
by Robert Frost