

## Quadrant II – Transcript and Related Materials

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### Glossary of Terms/Words:

{Note : many of the following items have links activated to take you to the site for further reading. These is a comprehensive list of terms you will come across a large section of reading.}

**Abecedarian**: a form guided by alphabetical order in which each line or stanza begins with a successive letter of the alphabet.

**Acrostic**: a form in which names or words are spelled out through the first letter of each line.

**Aisling**: an Irish dream poem in which Ireland appears to the poet personified as a woman.

**Alliteration**: the repetition of consonant sounds, particularly at the beginnings of words.

**Allusion**: a reference to a person, event, or literary work outside the poem.

**Anapest**: a metrical foot containing three syllables, the first two of which are unstressed and the last of which is stressed.

**Anaphora**: a technique in which successive phrases or lines begin with the same words, often resembling a litany.

**Annotation**: the close analysis of a poem or text through written notes and comments.

**Anthropomorphism**: the attribution of human traits, actions, or emotions to an animal, object, or other nonhuman figure.

**Apostrophe:** a direct address of an inanimate object, abstract qualities, a god, or a person not living or present.

**Ars Poetica:** a poem about poetry, examining the role of poets, poets' relationships to the poem, and the act of writing.

**Assonance:** the repetition of similar vowel sounds.

**Aubade:** a dawn song that greets the morning while lamenting the end of the night, often concerning the parting of lovers.

**Ballad:** a plot-driven song with one or more characters and often constructed in quatrain stanzas.

**Ballade:** a form popular in fourteenth- and fifteenth-century France that contains three main stanzas and a shorter concluding envoi.

**Bhakti Poetry:** a form that began in India in the sixth century and traditionally celebrates love for and devotion to specific Hindi gods.

**Bird Song:** an important influence on poets and poetry recurring across cultures and eras.

**Blank Verse:** poetry that does not rhyme but follows a regular meter, most commonly iambic pentameter.

**Blues Poem:** a form that stems from the African American oral tradition and the musical tradition of the blues.

**Bop:** a recently invented form of poetic argument consisting of three stanzas, each stanza followed by a repeated line or refrain.

**Caesura:** a pause for a beat in the rhythm of a verse, often indicated by a line break or by punctuation.

**Cento:** a form also known as a collage poem and composed entirely of lines from poems by other poets.

**Chance Operations:** methods of generating poetry independent of the author's will to create unusual syntax and images.

**Cinquain:** a poem or stanza, also known as a quintain or quintet, composed of five lines.

**Closed Form:** a poetic form subject to a fixed structure and pattern; the opposite of open form.

**Concrete Poetry:** a poem that is as much a piece of visual art made with words as it is a work of poetry.

**Connotation:** the implied or suggested meaning associated with a word or phrase.

**Consonance:** the repetition of similar consonant sounds.

**Couplet:** two successive lines of poetry, often rhymed.

**Dactyl:** a metrical foot containing three syllables, the first stressed and the following two unstressed.

**Denotation:** the dictionary meaning of a word.

**Doha:** a form in Hindi and Urdu verse that consists of rhyming couplets made up of twenty-four syllables each.

**Elegy:** a form of poetry in which the poet or speaker expresses grief, sadness, or loss.

**Elision:** the omission, usually via apostrophe, of an unstressed vowel or syllable to preserve the meter of a line of poetry.

**Elliptical Poetry:** poetry that is oblique and without prosaic information or a logical sequence of meaning.

**End-Stop:** the use of terminal punctuation such as a period, colon, or semicolon at the end of a poetic line; the opposite of enjambment.

**Enjambment:** the continuation of a phrase or sentence from one line to another without an end-stop.

**Epic:** a long, often book-length, narrative in verse form that retells the heroic journey of a single person, or group of persons.

**Epigram:** a short, pithy saying, usually in verse, often with a quick, satirical twist at the end.

**Epigraph:** a quotation set at the beginning of a literary work or one of its divisions to suggest its theme.

**Epistolary Poem:** also known as an epistle, a poem of direct address that reads as a letter.

**Erasure:** a form of found poetry wherein a poet takes an existing text and erases, blacks out, or otherwise obscures a large portion of the text, creating a wholly new work from what remains.

**Exquisite Corpse:** a collaborative poetry game that traces its roots to the Parisian [Surrealist Movement](#).

**Fable:** a story in prose or verse that often arrives at a moral.

**Falling Meter:** meter containing metrical feet that move from stressed to unstressed syllables; the opposite of rising meter.

**Figurative Meaning:** the associative or connotative meaning of a word, phrase, or poem.

**Filídh**: a historic rank of Irish poet who practiced an elaborate oral tradition and were known for their mysticism.

**Found Poem**: a collage-like form consisting entirely of language taken from outside texts.

**Fragment**: a part of a larger work, or a poem made to appear discontinuous or incomplete.

**Free Verse**: poetry not dictated by an established form or meter and often influenced by the rhythms of speech.

**Futurism**: an avant-garde movement in early twentieth-century arts and literature that emphasized technology, speed, and movement.

**Ghazal**: a form with its roots in seventh-century Arabia that is composed of five to fifteen structurally and thematically autonomous couplets.

**Haiku**: a form that originated in Japan, is traditionally composed of three lines with seventeen syllables, written in a 5/7/5 syllable count, and often focuses on images from nature.

**Hudibrastic Verse**: a narrative, humorous form related to the mock epic and consisting of eight-syllable lines and rhyming couplets.

**Hyperbole**: exaggeration for emphasis.

**Iamb**: a metrical foot containing two syllables, the first of which is unstressed and the latter of which is stressed.

**Iambic Pentameter**: a traditional form of rising meter consisting of lines containing five iambic feet, or ten syllables.

**Imagery**: language in a poem representing a sensory experience, including visual, auditory, olfactory, tactile, and gustatory).

**Inaugural Poem**: a poem read at a Presidential inauguration

**Incantation**: a chant or formulaic use of words invoking or suggesting magic or ritual.

**Irony**: a rhetorical device involving contradictions of expectation or knowledge and divided into three primary types: verbal, situational, and dramatic.

**Lament**: a poem or song expressing personal loss and grief.

**Limerick**: an often comical or nonsensical form composed of five lines and popular in children's literature.

**Line**: a fundamental unit in verse, carrying meaning both horizontally across the page and vertically from one line to the next.

**Literal Meaning:** the simplest and most obvious meaning of a word, phrase, or poem based on denotation and not connotation.

**Lullaby:** a song or folk poem meant to help a child fall asleep.

**Lyric Poetry:** a non-narrative poem, often with songlike qualities, that expresses the speaker's personal emotions and feelings.

**Metaphor:** a comparison between essentially unlike things, or the application of a name or description to something to which it is not literally applicable.

**Meter:** the measured pattern of rhythmic accents in a line of verse.

**Metonymy:** a word or phrase that replaces the name of an object or concept for another to which it is related.

**Naked Poetry:** free-verse poetry written without a set form and stripped of any artifice or ornament.

**Nature Poetry:** poetry that engages with, describes, or considers the natural world.

**Negative Capability:** a phrase coined by John Keats to describe the poet's ability to live with uncertainty and mystery.

**Nocturne:** a poem set at night.

**Occasional Poem:** a poem written to document or provide commentary on an event.

**Ode:** a lyric address to an event, a person, or a thing not present.

**Onomatopoeia:** the use of language that sounds like the thing or action it describes.

**Open Form:** a poetic form free from regularity and consistency in elements such as rhyme, line length, and form; the opposite of closed form.

**Oral-Formulaic Method:** a formula of repetition used by oral epic singers to allow for more fluent composition and memorization.

**Organic Form:** a form that is dictated by its specific content and not by a mechanic or pre-determined system.

**Oriki:** the oral praise poetry of the indigenous Yòrùbá communities of Western Africa.

**Oxymoron:** a combination of two words that appear to contradict each other.

**Paradox:** a situation or phrase that appears to be contradictory but that also contains some measure of truth.

**Pastoral:** referring to a creative tradition as well as individual work idealizing rural life and landscapes.

**Persona Poem**: a poem also known as a dramatic monologue in which the poet assumes the voice of another person, fictional character, or identity.

**Personification**: the endowment of inanimate objects or abstract concepts with animate or living qualities.

**Poetic Contest**: a verbal duel in which two or more contestants face off in a verse-based exchange.

**Poetic Diction**: the language, including word choice and syntax, that sets poetry apart from other forms of writing.

**Poetry**: a form of writing vital to culture, art, and life.

**Political Poetry**: poetry that is related to activism, protest, and social concern, or that is commenting on social, political, or current events.

**Praise Poem**: a poem of tribute or gratitude.

**Prose Poem**: a poem that lacks the line breaks traditionally associated with poetry.

**Proverb**: a short statement or saying that expresses a basic truth.

**Pun**: a play on words or the humorous use of a single sound or word with two or more implied meanings.

**Quatrain**: a four-line stanza or grouping of four lines of verse.

**Renga**: a form consisting of alternating tercets and couplets written by multiple collaborating poets.

**Repetition**: the poetic technique of repeating the same word or phrase multiple times within a poem or work.

**Rhyme**: the correspondence of sounds in words or lines of verse.

**Rhyme Scheme**: the pattern of rhymes falling at the ends of a poem's lines.

**Riddle**: a short poetic form with roots in the oral tradition that poses a question or metaphor.

**Rising Meter**: meter containing metrical feet that move from unstressed to stressed syllables; the opposite of falling meter.

**Rondeau**: a traditionally French form composed of a rhyming quintet, quatrain, and sestet.

**Sapphic**: a form dating back to ancient Greece made up of metered, four-line stanzas.

**Saudade**: a Portuguese term expressing nostalgia or yearning for something that might have been.

**Scansion:** the process of determining the meter of a poem or a line of verse.

**Sestina:** a complex, thirty-nine-line poem featuring the intricate repetition of end-words in six stanzas and an envoi.

**Simile:** a comparison between two essentially unlike things using words such as like and as.

**Slant Rhyme:** a rhyme formed with words with similar but not wholly identical sounds; also called an off rhyme, half rhyme, and imperfect rhyme.

**Sonnet:** a fourteen-line poem traditionally written in iambic pentameter, employing one of several rhyme schemes, and adhering to a tightly structured thematic organization.

**Spondee:** a less common metrical foot in which two consecutive syllables are stressed.

**Stanza:** a grouping of lines that forms the main unit in a poem.

**Stress:** the term describing when a greater amount of force is used to pronounce one syllable over an adjacent, unstressed syllable.

**Surrealism:** a 1920s artistic movement celebrating imagination over realism and, more broadly, to the incorporation of fantasy and strangeness in poetry and art.

**Syllable:** a unit of pronunciation in speech.

**Symbol:** an object or action that stands for something beyond itself.

**Synechdoche:** a word for part of an object or idea used as a substitution to describe the whole.

**Synesthesia:** an attempt to fuse different senses by describing one in terms of another.

**Tanka:** a thirty-one-syllable poem, Japanese in origin, that is traditionally written in a single unbroken line but is better known in its five-line form.

**Terza Rima:** a form invented in fourteenth-century Italy that is composed of tercets woven into a complex rhyme scheme.

**Tlamatine:** a Náhuatl word for "the one who knows" referring to fourteenth- and fifteenth-century Aztec poets.

**Translation:** the art of transferring a poem's meaning from one language to another.

**Triplet:** an eight-line poem, French in origin, with only two rhymes used throughout.

**Trochee:** a metrical foot containing two syllables, the first of which is stressed and the second of which is unstressed.

**Verbless Poetry:** poetry written without the use of verbs.

**Verse Novel**: a hybrid form in which a narrative with structural and stylistic similarities to a traditional novel is told through poetry.

**Villanelle**: a highly structured poem made up of five tercets followed by a quatrain, with two repeating rhymes and two refrains.

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