

Sonic Devices:

A **sonic device** is a rhetorical device that uses sound to convey meaning.

Alliteration: a stream of words with a repeated starting sound.

- Eg: several, sly, snakes, slid, silently

Assonance: a stream of words with a repeated vowel sound.

- Eg: case, brave, playful, grape, lane

Consonance: a stream of words with a repeated consonant sound.

- Eg: best, castor, gusting, staple, thrust

Rhyme: words with a repeated ending sound.

- Eg: train, pain, reign, stain, brain

Euphony: a stream of words that are pleasant sounding, rhythmical, and harmonious.

- Eg: “Some day Love shall claim his own / some day Right ascend his throne / some day hidden Truth be known...” (Lewis J. Bates)

Cacophony: a stream of words with harsh consonant sounds.

- Eg: “My stick fingers click with a snicker / And, chuckling, they knuckle the keys; / Light-footed, my steel feelers flicker...” (John Updike)

Onomatopoeia: use of words that attempt to emulate a sound.

- Eg: thwap, kaboom, plop, crunch, pew-pew