# **Poetry: Definition, Genres and Devices**

## **Definition**:

Poetry is the expression of a thought, an idea, a concept or a story in a structured or non structured form. A flow and a music created by the sounds and syllables make poetry beautiful. Most poets use forms and structures. All types of poetry are often written in several styles. These styles are defined by the number of lines in each stanza, the syllables used in each line or the structures of rhyme used and so on.

## **I-Definition:**

**Poetry** is a form of literature, **spoken** or **written**, that emphasizes rhythm, other intricate patterns of sound and imagery, and the many possible ways that words can suggest meaning.

-The **Orature** or the **oral tradition** stands for the spoken and sung cultural history preserved and passed on from one generation to the next in spoken, not written, stories and songs

## -Key Concepts:

**\*Prosody:** The study of the structure of poetry and the conventions or techniques involved in writing it, including rhyme, meter, and the patterns of verse forms.

\*Versification: The art of making verses, or the theory of the phonetic structure of verse.

#### -Devices of Poetry:

**1-Content:** It is what the poem is all about; the ideas, themes and storyline that it contains. One way of approaching a poem is by getting a general idea of what it is about and this is sometimes called the surface meaning of the poem on which to build more complex ideas that form the analysis of it.

**2-Poetic Voice:** also known as the speaker, mask, or persona (Latin for mask) refers to the voice that speaks a poem; this speaker is not usually identical to the author who writes the poem. The author assumes a role, or counterfeits the speech of a person in a particular situation.

3- Structure: Poem are divided into stanzas and verses (lines)

- Stanza: a group of lines in a poem.

-Verse (=line):1 line;

- **Couplet:** 2 successive lines which rhyme with each other;
- **Triplet:** 3 lines;
- **Quatrain:** 4 lines (especially lines that rhyme alternatively);
- **Cinquain:** a five-line stanza.

4- **Rhyme:**The occurrence of the same or similar sounds at the end of words.

- **a- Internal Rhyme:**Rhyme within a line of poetry.
- **b- ExternalRhyme:**Rhyme at the end of lines.

# What is prose?

In writing, **prose** is a style used that does not follow a structure of rhyming or meter. Rather, prose follows a grammatical structure using words to compose phrases that are arranged into sentences and paragraphs. It is used to directly communicate concepts, ideas, and stories to a reader. Prose follows an almost naturally verbal flow of writing that is most common among fictional and non-fictional literature such as novels, magazines, and journals.

**Four types of prose**: Nonfictional prose Fictional prose Prose poetry Heroic prose

# Prose

Prose follows a structure that makes use of sentences, phrases, and paragraphs. This type of writing follows a flow more similar to verbal speech and communication. This makes it the best style of writing to clearly articulate and communicate concepts, events, stories, and ideas as opposed to the figurative style of poetry.

# **Definition of Novel**

A novel is a narrative work of prose fiction that tells a story about specific human experiences over a considerable length.

Prose style and length, as well as fictional or semi-fictional subject matter, are the most clearly defining characteristics of a novel. Unlike works of epic poetry, it tells its story using prose rather than verse; unlike short stories, it tells a lengthy narrative rather than a brief selection. There are, however, other characteristic elements that set the novel apart as a particular literary form.

For the most part, novels are dedicated to narrating individual experiences of characters, creating a closer, more complex portrait of these characters and the world they live in. Inner feelings and thoughts, as well as complex, even conflicting ideas or values are typically explored in novels, more so than in preceding forms of literature. It's not just the stories themselves that are more personal, but the experience of reading them as well. Where epic poetry and similar forms of storytelling were designed to be publicly read or consumed as an audience, novels are geared more towards an individual reader.

# Literature;

is any collection of <u>written</u> work, but it is also used more narrowly for writings specifically considered to be an <u>art</u> form, especially <u>prose fiction</u>, <u>drama</u>, and <u>poetry</u>.<sup>[1]</sup> In recent centuries, the definition has expanded to include <u>oral</u> <u>literature</u>, much of which has been transcribed.<sup>[2]</sup> Literature is a method of recording, preserving, and transmitting knowledge and entertainment, and can also have a social, psychological, spiritual, or political role.

Literature, as an art form, can also include works in various non-fiction genres, such as <u>biography</u>, <u>diaries</u>, <u>memoir</u>, <u>letters</u>, and the <u>essay</u>. Within its broad definition, literature includes non-fictional books, articles or other printed information on a particular subject.<sup>[3][4]</sup>

Etymologically, the term derives from Latin literatura/litteratura "learning, a writing, grammar," originally "writing formed with letters," from *litera/littera* "letter".<sup>[5]</sup> In spite of this. the term has also been applied to spoken or sung texts.<sup>[6][7]</sup> Developments in print technology have allowed an ever-growing distribution and proliferation of written works, which now includes electronic literature.

Literature is classified according to whether it is <u>poetry</u>, <u>prose</u> or <u>drama</u>, and such works are often further categorized according to historical period, adherence to certain <u>aesthetic</u> features, or <u>genre</u>.

**Aesthetic** is used to talk about beauty or art, and people's appreciation of beautiful things.

*...products chosen for their aesthetic appeal as well as their durability and quality.* **Synonyms:** ornamental, artistic, pleasing, pretty More Synonyms of **aesthetic The aesthetic** of a work of art is its aesthetic quality.

He responded very strongly to the aesthetic of this particular work. [+ of]

**aesthetics**, also spelled **esthetics**, the philosophical study of beauty and taste. It is closely related to the philosophy of art, which is concerned with the nature of art and the concepts in terms of which individual works of art are interpreted and evaluated. To provide more than a general definition of the subject matter of aesthetics is immensely difficult. Indeed, it could be said that self-definition has been the major task of modern aesthetics

In linguistics, the term <u>specialization</u> (as defined by Paul Hopper), refers to one of the five principles by which grammaticalization can be detected while it is taking place. The other four principles are: layering, divergence, persistence, and de-categorialization. ( Specialization refers to the narrowing of choices that characterizes an emergent grammatical construction. The lexical meaning of a grammaticalizing feature decreases in scope, so that in time the feature conveys a generalized grammatical meaning.

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"Within a functional domain, at one stage a variety of forms with different semantic nuances may be possible; as grammaticalization takes place, this variety of formal choices narrows and the smaller number of forms selected assume more general grammatical meanings." (Hopper 1991: 22)

## References[edit]

- Lessau, Donald A. A Dictionary of Grammaticalization. Bochum: Brockmeyer, 1994.
- Hopper, Paul J. "On some principles of grammaticization". In Elizabeth Closs Traugott and Bernd Heine, eds. Approaches to Grammaticalization, Vol. I. Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 1991. pp. 17–36.

