

Poetry: Sound and Sense

Name: _____

Alliteration

Consonance



Onomatopoeia

Cacophony

Euphony

Below are lines of poetry of different periods and styles. Please identify the poetic device(s) used in each and mark in the blank provided. Choose from the terms above, and mark the sounds which justify your choices. Listen carefully!

1. Irks care the crop-full bird?

Frets doubt the maw-crammed beast?

from "Rabbi Ben Ezra"

Robert Browning

2. Soon, soon the flesh

the grave cave ate will be

at home on me.

from "Lady Lazarus"

Sylvia Plath

3. The cuckoo then on every tree

Mocks married men; for thus sings he,

"Cuckoo,

Cuckoo, cuckoo!"—Oh word of fear,

Unpleasing to a married ear!

from Love's Labour's Lost

William Shakespeare

4. Vines tougher than wrists

And rubbery shoots,

Scums, mildews, smuts along stems,

Great cannas and delicate cyclamen tips.

from "Forcing House"

Theodore Roethke

5. Nothing is so beautiful as spring--

When weeds, in wheels, shoot long and lovely and lush;

Thrushes eggs look little low heavens and thrush...

from "Spring"

Gerard Manley Hopkins

6. Ah! As the heart grows older

It will come to such sights colder

By and by, nor spare a sigh

Though worlds of wanwood leafmeal lie;

And yet you will weep and know why.

from "Spring and Fall"

Gerard Manley Hopkins
