

Alliteration, Assonance, & Consonance

Alliteration

- a literary device that uses the same or similar consonant sounds generally at the beginning of a sentence or stressed syllables.

When is alliteration used?

- poetry, music, speeches, tongue twisters, and storytelling, particularly children's stories
- Examples:
 - She **s**ells **s**eahells by the **s**eahore - (Repetition of the /s/ consonant sound)
 - **P**eter **P**iper **p**icked a **p**eck of **p**ickled **p**eppers - (Repetition of the /p/ consonant sound)
 - **C**herry **c**ookies in the **k**itchen - (Repetition of the interchangeable /c/ and /k/ consonant sounds)
 - **D**unkin **D**onuts
 - **K**rispy **K**reme
 - **Q**uick **q**uestion

Assonance

- a figure of speech in which the same vowel sound repeats within a group of words. Assonance occurs when sounds, not letters, repeat. It does not require that words with the same vowel sounds be directly next to each other. Assonant vowel sounds can occur anywhere (at the beginning or end, on stressed or unstressed syllables) within any of the words in the group.
- Examples:
 - **C**hips and **d**ips (Repetition of the /i/ vowel sound)
 - **S**urf and **t**urf (Repetition of the /u/ vowel sound)
 - Go **s**low over the **r**oad (Repetition of the short /o/ vowel sound)
 - Do **g**ood have **g**ood (Repetition of the /oo/ vowel sound)
 - No **p**ain, no **g**ain (Repetition of the /ai/ vowel sound)
 - She **e**ats the **s**weet **t**reats (Repetition of the /ae/ vowel sound)
 - It's **t**ru**e**. I do like **y**ou! (Repetition of the /ue/ vowel sound)

Alliteration vs Assonance

- Assonance involves the repetition of only vowel sounds, whereas alliteration can involve the repetition of either vowel sounds or consonant sounds.
- The repeating sounds of assonance can occur anywhere in a word. The repeating sounds of alliteration, in contrast, must occur either in the first syllables of words or on the stressed syllables of words.

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Consonance

- A figure of speech in which the same consonant sound repeats within a group of words. All letters that aren't vowels. So any letter that isn't an; A, E, I, O, or U.
- Examples:
 - **Touch** the **beach** with a **peach** - (Repetition of the /ch/ consonant sound)
 - **All's well** that ends OK - play by William Shakespeare. (Repetition of the /ll/ voiced consonant sound)
 - **Dogs** are **frogs** living in **sprogs** (Repetition of the soft /g/ and /s/ consonants)
 - To sit in **solemn silence** in a **dull**, dark dock - (Repetition of the /s/, /l/, and /d/ consonant sounds)

Alliteration vs Consonance

- Consonance involves the repetition of only consonant sounds, whereas alliteration can involve the repetition of either vowel sounds or consonant sounds.
- The repeating sounds of consonance can occur anywhere in a word, whereas the repeating sounds of alliteration must occur either in the first syllables of words or in the stressed syllables of words.



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References

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