

# Title: Poetic Devices #6 (Manufacturing)

<b>Objectives</b> Students will be able to identify poetic devices in a poem. Students will be able to summarize and explain a poem in their own words.													<b>Time frame to Complete</b> 30-45 minutes								
													<b>NRS EFL</b> 4								
Stackable Cert.	Documentation	Technology	Study / Life skills	EL-Civics	Career Pathways	Police	Paramedic	Fire Rescue	Medical Asst.	EKG / Cardio	Phlebotomy	Practical Nursing	Healthcare Admin	Pharmacy Tech	IMT	AMT	HVAC	Welding	Other:	Construction and other skilled trades	
X															X	X	X		X		
<b>Standard(s) Addressed in Lesson</b> Read with Understanding																					
<b>Benchmark(s) Addressed in Lesson</b> R.4.6. Select and use print and electronic reference materials (for example, web search) to determine and clarify word meaning. R.4.8. Understand meaning of some specialized content vocabulary (for example, "constitution"). R.4.9. Identify and explain the use of figurative language (for example, hyperboles, personification, metaphor) in text. R.4.13. Analyze literary elements and characteristics that define genres of writing (for example, prose, poetry, drama).																					
<b>Materials</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "I Hear America Singing" by Walt Whitman</li> <li>• <i>Poetic Devices</i> handout</li> <li>• Dictionary</li> </ul>																					
<b>Learner Prior Knowledge</b> It is beneficial if students have some basic knowledge of poetry. If students are not aware that poetry differs from prose or "academic" writing, explain that it is similar to the difference between an essay and a song. Both communicate a message, but there are significant differences in arrangement, length, and word choice.																					
<b>Activities</b>  <u>Step 1</u> Distribute <i>Poetic Devices</i> handout. Review with students, clarifying or providing examples as necessary.  <u>Step 2</u> Two readings of the poem "I Hear America Singing". For the first reading, the teacher reads the poem aloud. Students read the poem silently a second time.  <u>Step 3</u> As students read the poem, they should circle any vocabulary that they do not know. Then, they should use a dictionary to define any unknown words within the poem.  <u>Step 4</u> After reading the poem, students complete the worksheet. They will identify two poetic devices in the poem. Students should copy the examples, label each device, and explain the meanings and/or how each device																					

contributes to the meaning of the poem. In addition, they will answer a few questions about the poem's meaning.

Step 5 Students share and discuss their examples. As a class, discuss the questions on the worksheet. What do the students think the meaning of the poem is (Unity? Pride in a job well done?)? How would the poem be different if it were written today (Different careers? Different message?)?

**Assessment/Evidence**

Definitions of vocabulary words

Correct identification and explanation of poetic devices within the poem and completion of questions

Class discussion

**Adaptations for Beginning Students**

Beginning students may work with a partner.

**Adaptations for Advanced Students**

**Teacher Reflection/Lesson Evaluation**

This lesson was created by Middletown ABLE.

## I Hear America Singing

By Walt Whitman

I hear America singing, the varied carols I hear,  
Those of mechanics, each one singing his as it should be blithe  
and strong,  
The carpenter singing his as he measures his plank or beam,  
The mason singing his as he makes ready for work, or leaves off  
work,  
The boatman singing what belongs to him in his boat, the deckhand  
singing on the steamboat deck,  
The shoemaker singing as he sits on his bench, the hatter singing  
as he stands,  
The wood-cutter's song, the ploughboy's on his way in the  
morning, or at noon intermission or at sundown,  
The delicious singing of the mother, or of the young wife at work,  
or of the girl sewing or washing,  
Each singing what belongs to him or her and to none else,  
The day what belongs to the day--at night the party of young  
fellows, robust, friendly,  
Singing with open mouths their strong melodious songs.

Read "I Hear America Singing" two times.

- If you do not know any of the words in the poem, copy them here. Then use a dictionary to define them.

## Poetic Devices

Poetry is a means of expressing one's ideas, emotions, or opinions. Often, the only tool an author has for creating his work is words. In poetry, the message is communicated through word choice, arrangement, sound, and rhythm. Poetry is not required to follow the same rules as prose writing, and so standard conventions such as capitalization and punctuation are choices that contribute to the form and meaning of the poem.

Poetic devices are ways in which words can be used and arranged to communicate a specific feeling or meaning. Common poetic devices are listed below:

- **alliteration** – intentional repetition of a consonant sound
- **allusion** - a reference to a person, place, or event of which most people are aware
- **assonance** – intentional repetition of a vowel sound
- **hyperbole** - an exaggeration or overstatement
- **imagery** – words, phrases, or details that appeal to the senses
- **internal rhyme** – the use of rhyme within one line of poetry
- **metaphor** - comparison of unlike things without using *like* or *as* (e.g. stating one thing *is* another)
- **meter** - rhythm or pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables
- **onomatopoeia** – a word that imitates a sound
- **personification** - giving human characteristics to the non-living
- **repetition** – the re-use or repeating of words, phrases, lines, or stanzas
- **rhyme** – the similarity of ending sounds in two words
- **rhyme scheme** – the pattern by which lines of poetry are grouped
- **simile** - comparison of unlike things using *like* or *as*
- **stanza** – grouping of two or more lines of poetry by length, rhythm, rhyme, and/or idea (also called a verse)
- **symbol** – an object or action that represents something other than its literal meaning

1. As you reread the poem, look for two examples of poetic devices. For each example, write the following:
  - a. Type of poetic device
  - b. Copy the line (or lines) in which it occurs.
  - c. What does it mean OR what effect does it have on the poem?

Example #1

Example #2

2. Think about what message the poet is communicating. Many different types of workers are “singing”. What do you think that means?

3. What feeling are you left with after reading the poem?

4. This poem was published in 1900. How do you think the poem would be different if it were written today? Why?