

Assonance and consonance

Assonance is the repetition of the vowel sounds in words close to each other to create a mood or feeling. The vowels don't have to be the same but the sounds they create must sound the same.

Example: I knew that you would do your picture in blue.

Consonance is the repetition of consonant sounds in words close to each other. The repeated sounds are usually at the end of words but can also be found in the middle of words.

Example: The tiredd treadd of coldd feet.

1. The poem below is full of examples of assonance and consonance. Next to each line of the poem is a letter. If there is the letter **A** next to the line, circle the words that show assonance in that line. If there is a letter **C** next to the line underline the words that show consonance in that line.

- | | |
|---|---|
| C | The tall hill made me feel small. |
| A | As small as a tiny me in the big sea. |
| A | As small as a flea at the bottom of a tree. |
| C | I know that to climb this hill will give me a thrill. |
| C | But what if at the top there is no bus stop? |
| C | I would then have to ask for an oxygen mask. |
| A | The tall hill made me feel small. |
| | As small as a mouse. |
| A | How small is a mouse and a mouse's house? |
| A | Teeny meeny mouse why are you so small? |
| A | If you were tall would you crawl up this hill? No? |
| A | Then neither will I, instead I will just look at the sky. |



2. Choose words from the margin to write one sentence with assonance and one sentence with consonance.

A _____

C _____

Onomatopoeia

Onomatopoeia is the name given to words that imitate sounds.

Example: Bang!

The word *bang* is a short, sharp sound. The word is just like the sound something makes when it closes with a loud noise.

Example: Woof!

The word *woof* imitates the sound a dog makes when it barks.

1. Underline the example of onomatopoeia in each sentence below.

- My alarm beeped me awake.
- The plate fell with a crash.
- The bath water gurgled down the drain.
- The baby birds cheeped for food.
- The ding dong of the doorbell announced the guests.

2. Circle the onomatopoeic word and write on the line who or what made the noise. The first one has been done for you.

- The girls (giggled) in the story. the girls
- The owl's hoot scared me. _____
- The door clicked closed. _____
- Zenay slurped his soup. _____
- The car's tyres squealed as the car stopped.

3. Complete the following sentences by choosing an example of onomatopoeia from the margin.

- Phillip fell to the ground with a _____.
- The rain _____ against the window.
- Hloni _____ her favourite song.
- Mustafa _____ after he has brushed his teeth.
- The cold air made our teeth _____.

chatter
splashed
gargles
thud
hummed