

Alliteration

Definition:

- The repetition of a consonant sound in the stressed syllables of a poem.
- Alliteration is pleasing to hear and is used to add a unique element to one's writing. It is used in literature as well as advertisements. Ex: Coca-Cola, Life Lock, Bed Bath & Beyond, and Krispy Kreme.
- Don't be confused!
 - In general, people use "alliteration" to mean the use of words that begin with the same sound near one another; however, its definition is narrower when speaking of literature.
 - Consonance (ex: **w**ind will **b**end) is a scheme that's similar to, but not the same as, alliteration. Consonance refers to the repetition of consonant sounds.
Alliteration is a special case of consonance where the repeated consonant sound is at the stressed syllable

Examples:

"dragging the lazy languid Line along".

Peter Piper Picked a Peck of Pickled Peppers.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge wrote "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner," which contains several alliterations. It reads, "The fair breeze blew, the white foam flew, / The furrow followed free; / We were the first that ever burst / Into that silent sea."

Note: The alliterations include: breeze blew, foam flew, and furrow followed.

Another writer who uses alliteration is Shakespeare. In Romeo and Juliet, the text reads, "From forth the fatal loins of these two foes; / A pair of star-cross'd lovers take their life."

Note: This is an example of alliteration with the "f" and "l." in words "forth," "fatal foes," and "lion lovers," and "life".

Links:

<http://literarydevices.net/alliteration/>
<http://literary-devices.com/content/alliteration>