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ANALYZE CRAFT AND STRUCTURE ▶ **POETIC STRUCTURES**

Poetic structures that poets use include **free verse**, **parallel structure**, **anaphora**, and **catalogues**. These structures can work together to present a theme, or in some cases, an **epic theme**.

Poetic Structure	Characteristics	Example
free verse	poetry without rules; no set rhyme, rhythm, or pattern	The fog comes in On little cat feet.
parallel structure	repetition of words, phrases, and structures	I am largely indifferent to what is largely important
anaphora	repetition of an initial word or phrase	We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets...
catalogues	lists of items	In her bag she had pins, nickels, socks, clocks, tickets for shows long ago

DIRECTIONS: Read the poem. Then respond to the questions.

No More Irony

I gave up on irony...forever.
Like an ironing board I never wanted to see again. Only kidding.
I did give it up once, though. Not kidding.
Turned out irony's a tough habit to break.
Turned out I was sort of attached to the stuff.
Irony was my best friend, my companion, my running mate.
Can I ever give it up? Watch this. Oh wait, not now. Never mind.

- How does the poem exhibit **free verse**?

- Find an example of **parallel structure** in the poem.

- Where do you see **anaphora** in the poem?

- Identify an example of a **catalogue** in the poem.

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A. DIRECTIONS: Read the poem. Then respond to the questions.

My Friend Jay Likes Bad Coffee

Jay says, it's time to start drinking coffee
 It tastes good (sort of),
 And it gives him something to do in coffee shops.
 But it's expensive.
 It doesn't taste all that good, actually
 Jay drinks only bad coffee.
 he's afraid of liking good coffee then he won't be liking bad coffee anymore
 And good coffee's expensive, so it's better if he likes bad coffee says Jay.

1. How does the poem exhibit **free verse**?

2. Find an example of **parallel structure** in the poem.

3. Where do you see **anaphora** in the poem?

4. Identify an example of a **catalogue** in the poem.

B. DIRECTIONS: Write a poem on the topic of your choice that has examples of **free verse**, **parallel structure**, **anaphora**, and **catalogue**.

1. How does your poem exhibit **free verse**?

2. Where in your poem is there an example of **parallel structure**?

3. Where in your poem is there an example **anaphora**?

4. Where in your poem is there an example **catalogue**?
