

Poetry

Lyric Poems are short and songlike and express the feelings of the speaker.

Concrete Poems are shaped to look like the poem's subject matter.

Literary Elements

Assonance is the repetition of the same middle vowel sound in two or more closely grouped words.

Onomatopoeia is the use of words that sound like the action or thing they describe.

Bicycle Riding

by Sandra Liatsos

My feet rise
off the planet,
pedal wheels of steel
that sparkle as
they spin me through
the open space I feel
winging out
to galaxies
far beyond the sun,
where bicycles
are satellites,
their orbits never done.

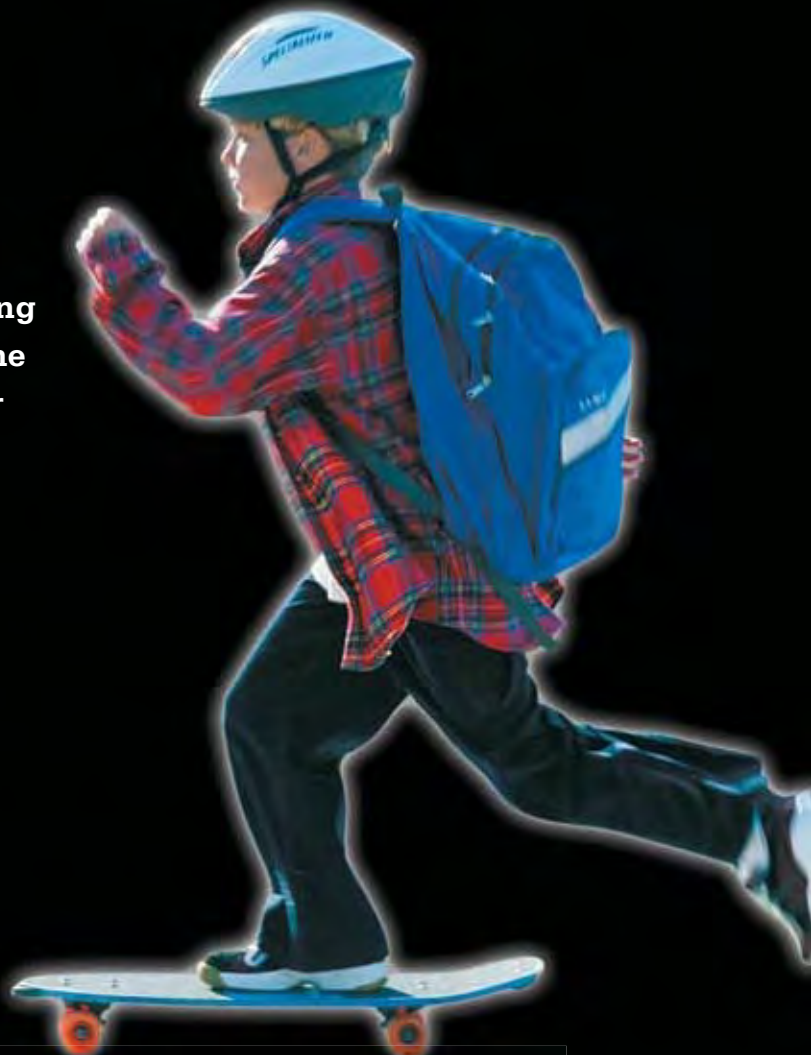
The words *wheels* and *steel* repeat the middle vowel sound "ee" to create assonance.

The Sidewalk Racer or On the Skateboard

by Lillian Morrison

Skimming
an asphalt sea
I swerve, I curve, I
sway; I speed to whirring
sound an inch above the
ground; I'm the sailor
and the sail, I'm the
driver and the wheel
I'm the one and only
single engine
human auto
mobile.

Whirring is
like the sound
it is describing.
This is an
example of
onomatopoeia.



Connect and Compare



1. How does the assonance in “Bicycle Riding” appeal to your senses? Which sense does it appeal to most? **Assonance**
2. Lyric poems are written to express strong feeling. How do the poets feel about bicycle riding and skateboarding? **Analyze**
3. Do you think Marshall Taylor would agree with the feelings expressed in “Bicycle Riding” and “The Sidewalk Racer”? Why or why not? **Reading/Writing Across Texts**



Writer's Craft

Topic Sentence and Details

In a news article, the lead, or **topic sentence**, states the most important fact. The following sentences provide **details** that tell *when*, *where*, *why*, and *how*. The sentences should be concise.

Write a News Article

The first sentence states the topic of the article.

U.S. Teen Takes Gold

by Josh A.

ATHENS 2004 — On August 19, Carly Patterson won the gold medal in the Olympic gymnastics all-around competition. This is the first time in 20 years that an American woman has won this prize. The last winner was Mary Lou Retton.

Patterson began the contest on the vault, scoring a 9.375. This low score motivated her to improve her performance. She

raised her score on the next event by two-tenths of a point, earning her a 9.575 on the uneven bars.

Patterson knew that she must give a nearly perfect performance on her two final events, the balance beam and the floor exercise, and she did just that. She received a 9.725 on the balance beam. With this score, she took the lead over Svetlana Khorkina of Russia. She maintained the lead when she scored a 9.712 on her floor exercise to grab the gold.

The fifteen-year-old American was a proud winner. Svetlana Khorkina took the silver, and Nan Zhang of China took the bronze. Everyone in the final competition showed great talent.

I gave details about the Athens 2004 Olympic



Your Turn

Write a news article about a sports event. It can be an event you watched in person or on television. Make sure you state the topic and most important facts in the first sentence. Follow that with information on when, where, why, and how. Use the Writer's Checklist to review your article.



Writer's Checklist

- Ideas and Content:** Did I use a **topic sentence** at the beginning and include **details** that tell *when, where, why, and how*?
- Organization:** Did I use time-order words to help organize my article?
- Voice:** Did I choose words that express my interest in the topic?
- Word Choice:** Did I use vivid words and precise verbs to capture readers' attention?
- Sentence Fluency:** Did I write concise sentences that are clearly connected?
- Conventions:** Did I use hyphens correctly? Did I check my spelling?