



**Stopping by the Woods  
on a Snowy Evening**

**By Robert Frost**

# 1. Assonance

Assonance is the close repetition of vowel sounds in a line of poetry.

For example, “same day” repeats the “ā” sound and is considered assonance.

Copy the example of assonance from line 3 of the poem. Label it **assonance** and write a definition of the term.



## 2. Alliteration

**Alliteration** is the repetition of consonant sounds in a line of poetry.

“**A big black bug bit Betty,**” is an example.

Copy the definition of alliteration on your paper. Then find an example of alliteration in one line, and write those alliterated words on your paper.



# 3. Stanza

**A stanza** is a division of a poem arranged into groups of lines.

They are similar to paragraphs.

Each stanza is separated from the others by a skipping a line.

How many stanzas are in this poem?



# 4. Types of Stanzas

**Stanzas** can be composed of different numbers of lines.

A **couplet** is a two line stanza.

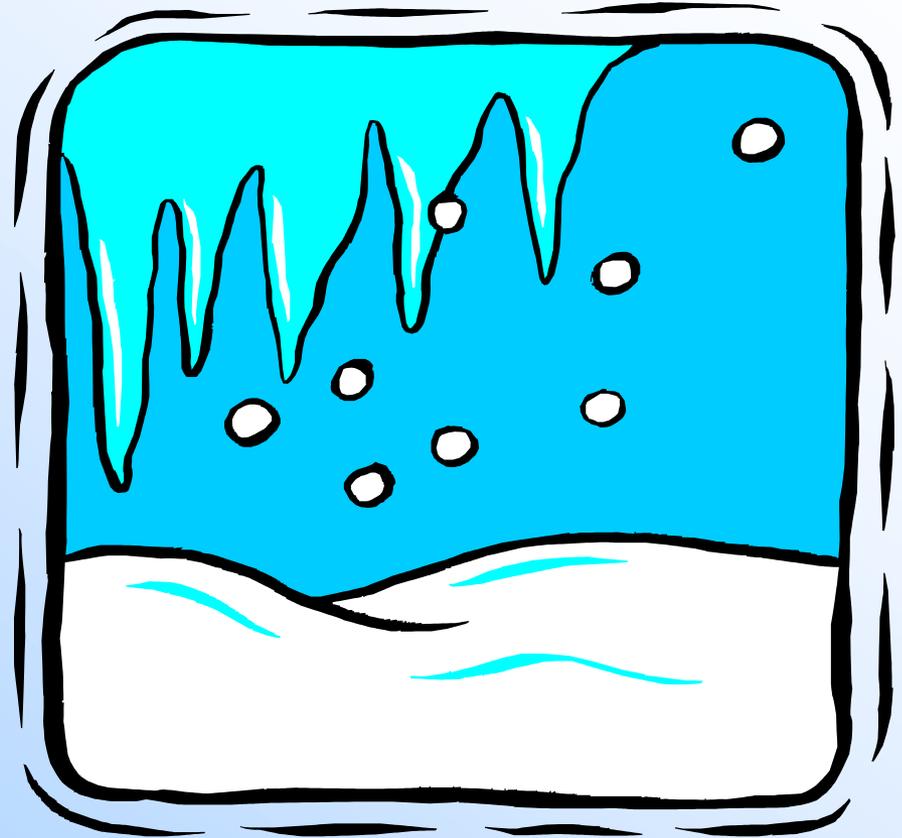
A **tercet** is a three line stanza.

A **quatrain** is a four line stanza.

A **quintet** is a five line stanza.

A **sestet** is a six line stanza.

Which kind of stanzas does the poet use in this poem?



# 5. Rhyme

**Rhyme** is defined as the repetition of the accented vowel sound and all succeeding sounds.

Examples are:

old/cold

make/wake

feign/rain

List all rhyming words used by the poet at the end of each line.



# 6. Rhyme Scheme

**Rhyme scheme** refers to the pattern of rhyme.

The last word in the first line is assigned letter “a.”

Any end word in the same stanza which rhymes with it will also be assigned the letter “a.”

If the last word does not rhyme with that first word, it is assigned letter “b.” All words in the same stanza that rhyme with word “b” will also be labeled “b.”

Write the rhyme scheme used by the poet for all lines in all stanzas.



# 7. Imagery

**Imagery** is defined as a representation or picture drawn by the author's words.

In the first stanza, what picture does the poet paint with his words?

What does the reader see in the second stanza?



# 8. Imagery

**Imagery** may also be a representation of a sound. What sounds does the reader “hear” in stanza # 3?

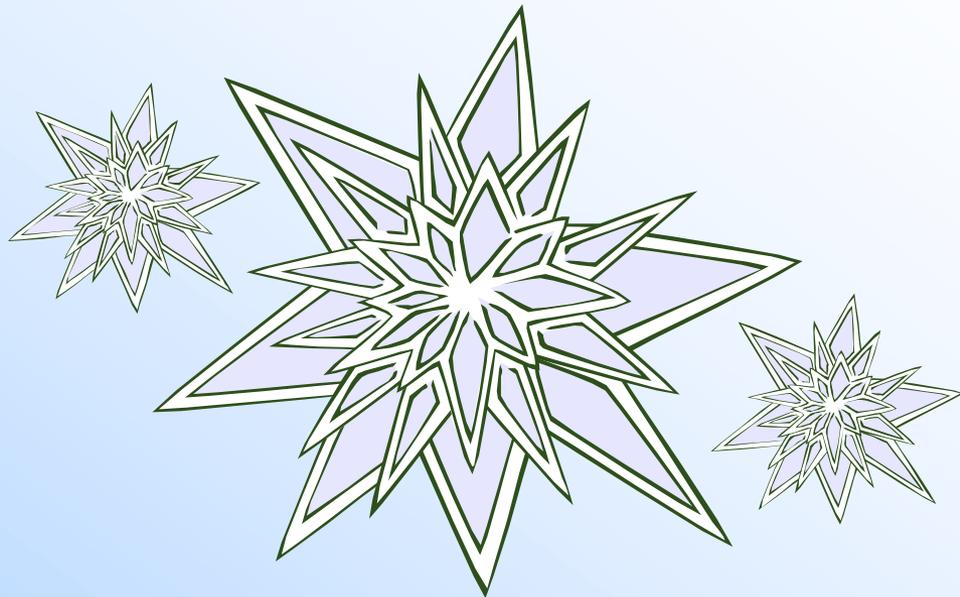


# 9. Symbols

**Do you think the symbols in line 13 are positive or negative?**

**Why?**

**How do they make you feel?**



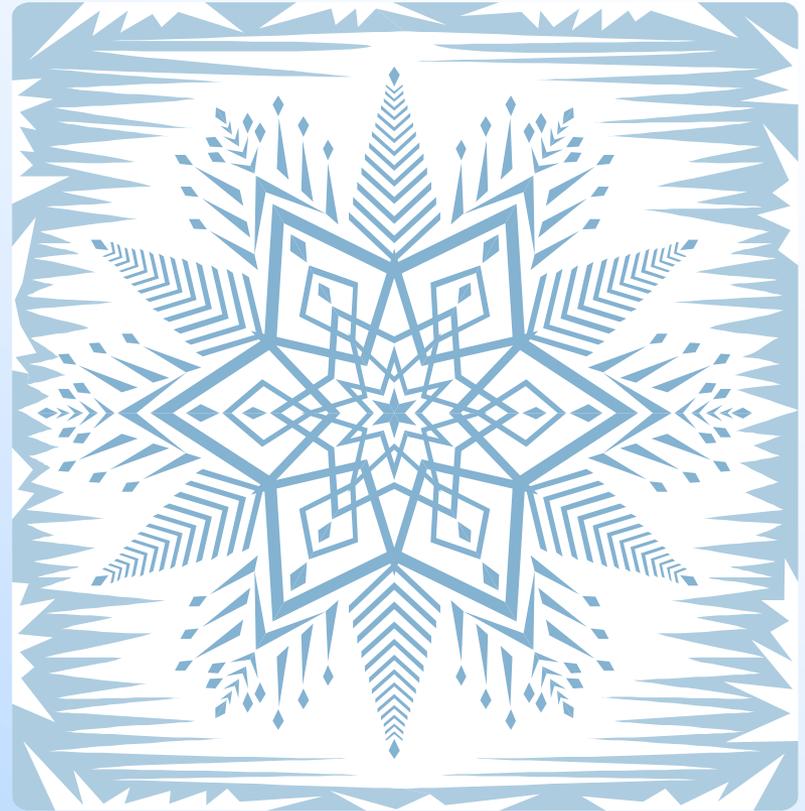


# 10. Hyperbole

A **hyperbole** is an overstatement which should not be taken literally.

For example: “You’ve grown a foot!” simply means you’ve gotten a great deal taller, not that you have literally grown 12 inches.

Copy the definition of hyperbole and write the line in which you find an example of that technique in the first stanza.



# 11. Symbolism

**Symbolism** occurs when an author uses one thing to represent another thing.

For example, the seasons are sometimes used to represent the periods in a person's life.

If spring is symbolic of birth and new life, what would be symbolized by the seasonal setting of this poem?

Why is this season a good parallel with that portion of a person's life?



# 12. Setting

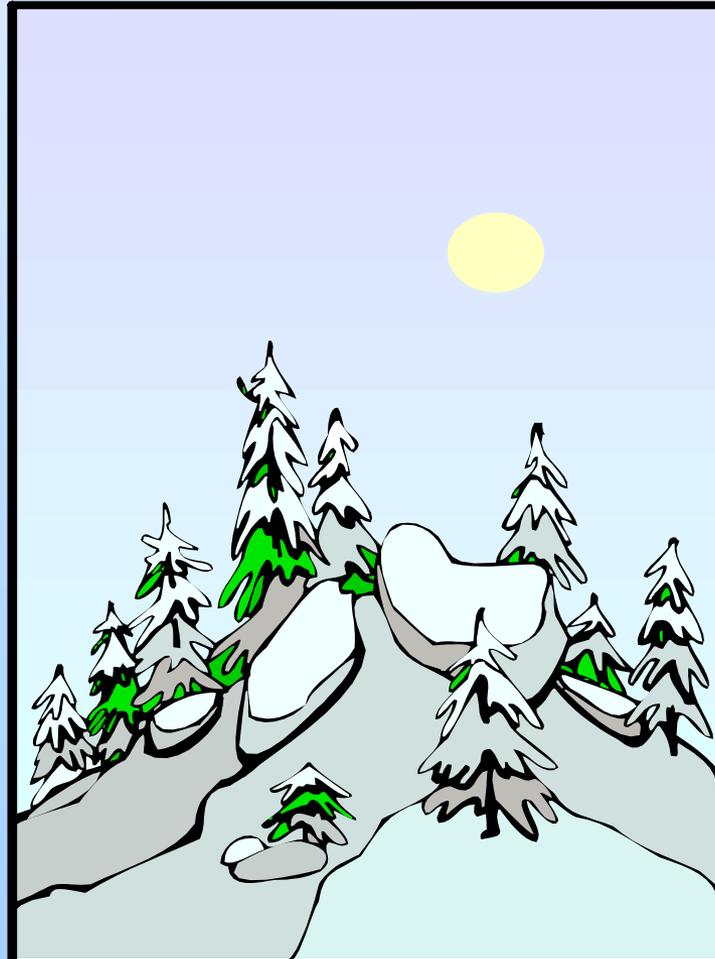
The **setting** refers to where and when a story, a poem, or a play takes place.

What is the setting for this poem?



# 13. Images of Nature

What types of nature does this poet use?

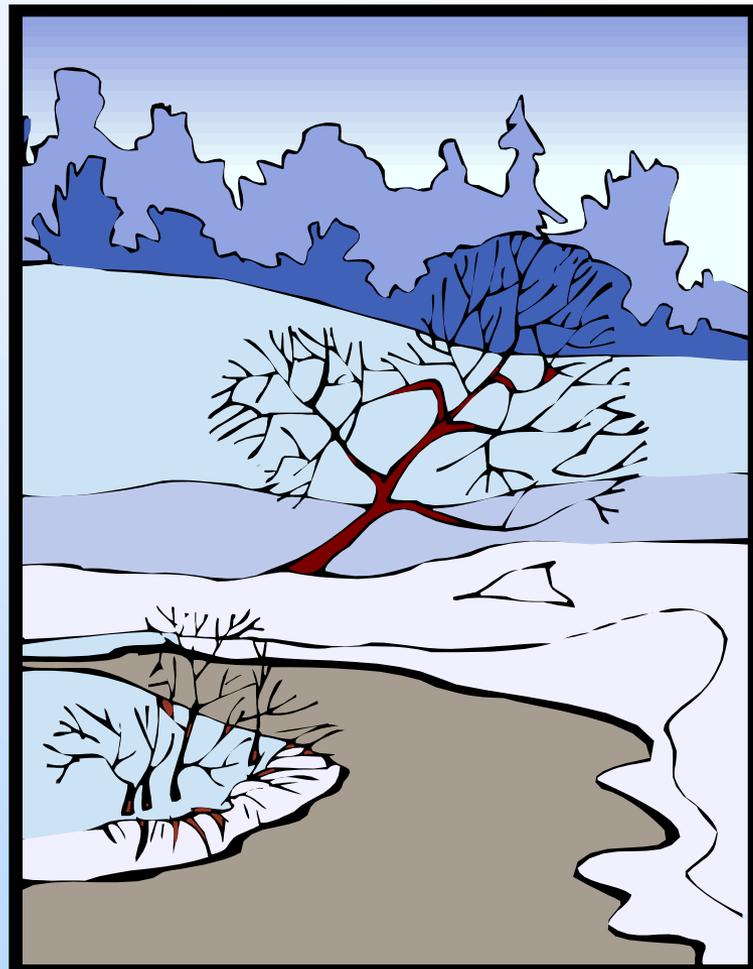


# 14. Lonely places

Robert Frost often wrote poetry about a lonely place.

Does that habit fit this poem?

Give specific evidence.



## 15. Record several facts about the poet, Robert Frost

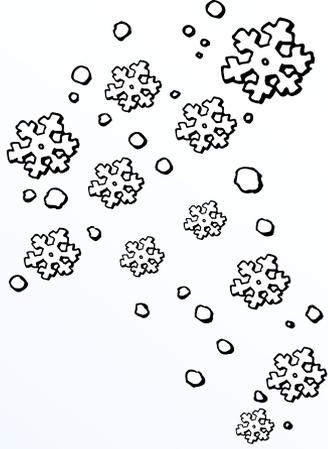


Robert Frost was born in San Francisco in 1874. He moved to New England at the age of eleven and became interested in reading and writing poetry during his high school years in Lawrence, Massachusetts. He was enrolled at Dartmouth College in 1892, and later at Harvard, but never earned a formal degree. Frost drifted through a string of occupations after leaving school, working as a teacher, cobbler, and editor of the Lawrence *Sentinel*. His first professional poem, "My Butterfly," was published on November 8, 1894, in the New York newspaper *The Independent*.

In 1895, Frost married Elinor Miriam White, who became a major inspiration in his poetry until her death in 1938. The couple moved to England in 1912, after their New Hampshire farm failed. By the time Frost returned to the United States in 1915, he had published two full-length collections, *A Boy's Will* and *North of Boston*, and his reputation was established. By the nineteen-twenties, he was the most celebrated poet in America, and with each new book—including *New Hampshire* (1923), *A Further Range* (1936), *Steeple Bush* (1947), and *In the Clearing* (1962)—his fame and honors (including four Pulitzer Prizes) increased. His work is principally associated with the life and landscape of New England. Robert Frost lived and taught for many years in Massachusetts and Vermont, and died on January 29, 1963, in Boston.



# 16. Bonus



**Comment on the poet's word choice.**

**What words are especially effective in stanza # 3?**

**List some common words used by the poet.**

**What reason might a poet have for choosing to use an ordinary word?**

**Write your response wherever you have room on your paper.**