RHYME AS A PHONETIC STYLISTIC DEVICE

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Abstract: This article is dedicated to the rhyme as a phonostylistic features of phonetic changes in English language. Rhyming words are generally place at a regular distance from other. In the article the types of rhymes are also discussed.
Keywords:. Rhyme, a poetic device, repition of sounds, work of poetry, corresponding lines, spelling rhymes, couplets, triple, cross, framing, ring rhymes..

When discussing the general significance and types of rhyme in the English language, most scholars come to diverse conclusions but at the same time one can

observe the linear and identical opinions.

If to speak about the rhyme as a poetic device, the term itself came from Greek word **arithmos** which means 'series, enumeration, number'.

Scholars such as **Rene Wellek** and **Austin Warren** advance the theory of sound euphony where rhyme is considered as the main component of musicality. They characterize rhyme as "extremely complex phenomenon and it has its mere euphonious function as repetition (or near repetition) of sounds". "But, - they assert, - they carry very important aesthetic metrical function signaling the conclusion of line of verse, sometimes the sole organizer of stanzaic pattern". According to scholars rhyme has meaning and thus deeply involved in the whole character of a work of poetry [2, 160]. They suggest:

1. rhymes in suffix (character - register)
2. rhymes in the roots (drink - think)
3. rhymes in both suffix and root (passion - fashion)

I.R.Galperin in his manual "Stylistics" defines the term in the following way:

"Rhyme is the repetition of identical or similar terminal sound combination of words. Rhyming words are generally placed at a regular distance from each other.

In verse they are usually placed at the end of the corresponding lines." [1, 128]

There are different types of rhymes as identity and similarity of sound

combinations may be relative.

1. **Full rhyme** presupposes identity of the vowel sound and the following consonant sounds in a stressed syllable. Eg, *might - right, needless - heedless*.

2. **Incomplete rhymes** can be vowel and consonant rhymes.

a. If the vowels of the syllables in corresponding words are identical, but the consonants may be different, the rhyme is called incomplete vowel rhyme. Ex. *worth - forth, flesh - fresh*

b. If the consonants of the syllables in corresponding words are identical, but the

vowels show disparity, the rhyme is called incomplete consonant rhyme. Ex, *worth - forth, treble - trouble*.

3. **Compound rhyme** is when one word rhyme with a combination of words; two or even three words rhyme with corresponding two or three words. Ex. *Bottom-forgot'em-shot him*.

4. **Eye Rhymes**, also called sight or spelling rhymes, refer to words having the same spelling, but different sounds. In such case, the final syllables have the same spellings, but are pronounce differently. Ex. *cough - bough, love - move*.

According to the way the rhymes are *arranged* within the stanza, I.R. Galperin differentiates the following types:

1. **Couplets** - when the last words of two successive lines are rhymed. This is commonly marked - aa.

2. **Triple** rhymes -aaa.

3. **Cross** rhymes - abab.

4. **Framing** or **ring** rhymes - abba.

The scholar also offers **internal** rhyme where the rhyming words are placed not at the ends of the lines but within the line.

"*I bring fresh showers for the thirsting flowers*, " (Percy Bysshe Shelley)

Searching very popular internet site "Literary devices" we come across with the following classifications of rhymes:

Perfect rhymes are considered as the only real type of rhyme. Ex. *mind - kind*

There are a few different types of perfect rhymes:

1. **Single**: This is a rhyme in which the stress is on the final syllable of the words (*mind - behind*).

2. **Double**: This perfect rhyme has the stress on the penultimate, or second-to-last, syllable (*toasting - roasting*).

3. **Dactylic**: This rhyme, relatively uncommon in English, has the stress on the antepenultimate, or third-from-last, syllable (*terrible - wearable*).

Imperfect rhymes are imperfect match in sounds.

E.g. *mind - line*

There are several types of imperfect rhymes:

1. **Imperfect or near rhyme**: In this type of rhyme, the same sounds occur in two words but in unstressed syllables (*thing - missing*).

2. **Identical rhymes**: Homonyms in English don't satisfy the rules of perfect rhymes because while the vowels are matching, the preceding consonants also match and therefore the rhyme is considered inferior. For example, **way - weigh -**

whey are identical rhymes and are not considered to be good rhymes.

3. **Eye rhyme**: This is common in English because so many of our words are spelled in the same way, yet have different pronunciations. For example, (*good -*

food) look like they should rhyme, but their vowel sounds are different.

Thus we can conclude that rhyme is a phonetic stylistic device which mostly deals with sound peculiarities of the words standing at a regular distance from each

other. They carry aesthetic function to organize stanzaic patterns in poetry. Rhymes can be classified according to their structure at the end of the corresponding words. Also rhymes are classified according to their position in the line of the words and create several schemes in verse.

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