Poetry - Use of Imagery

Images are word-pictures. Poets use images to express their ideas or feelings. In order to understand the meaning of a poem it is important to understand the way imagery has been used.

Different types of imagery

Personification is giving human qualities to animals or objects. Example: a smiling moon, the snow whispered

Metaphor and similes compare things which are different and show qualities which are similar.

A simile compares two things using the words as or like Example: He was like a lion in the battle. Her hands were as cold as ice.

A metaphor compares X to Y and says that X is Y. Example: He was a lion in the battle. Juliet is the sun.

Allegory is using symbols which have a hidden meaning Example: using <u>scales</u> to represent justice



Words and phrases to describe the use of images

The poet	builds constructs creates composes paints conjures up	vibrant images vivid images images of wild and mysterious places unusual images
	uses	

to

convey feelings of embody the sense of suggest	loss and grief power and energy force and violence excitement and joy
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Poetry - Useful Verbs

What does the poet do?

The Poet	attempts to create the feeling of
He	compares
She	conveys feelings of
	describes
	explains that
	observes that
	pauses to observe that
	suggests that
	wonders how
	beautifully captures images of
	uses imagery in a fresh and imaginative way
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The imagery	captures the excitement and atmosphere of	