**Sound Effects 2.7**

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| guns thumped |
| the shrieking air |
| the shrill, demented choirs of wailing shells |
| the stuttering rifles' rapid rattle |
| the monstrous anger of the guns |
| the drum and rattle of feet |
| Shells burst with hollow bang |
| we herded from the blast  Of whizz-bangs |
| Northward, incessantly, the flickering gunnery rumbles. |
| Worried by silence, sentries whisper, curious, nervous |
| All their eyes are ice. |
| Our brains ache, in the merciless iced east winds that knife us. |
| Pale flakes with fingering stealth come feeling for our faces. |
| Fearfully flashed the sky's mysterious glass |
| crumps  Pummelled the roof and slogged the air beneath |
| Sudden successive flights of bullets streak the silence. |
| Watching, we hear the mad gusts tugging on the wire, Like twitching agonies of men among its brambles. |
| We only know war lasts, rain soaks, and clouds sag stormy. |
| Rain, guttering down in waterfalls of slime Kept slush waist high |
| the gloom  Swallowed his sense of sight; he stooped and swore |
| the instant  Split his startled life with lead. |
| And thud! flump! thud! down the steep steps came thumping And splashing in the flood, deluging muck — The sentry's body. |

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| **ALLITERATION**  Repetition of consonant sounds (the hiss of slithery snakes slowly sliding)  Mainly noticeable if the repetition is of an initial consonant and/or if there are several instances of the repetition.  **Alliteration can be used for sound effects e.g. lots of sibilants (s, sh, z) creates a hissing effect; lots of plosives (p, b, d, t, th, c/k, g) sound hard, angry**  **Alliteration can be used for establishing patterns and connecting ideas within the same line or between lines of the poem.** |

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| **ASSONANCE**  Repetition of vowel sounds (the hiss of slithery snakes sliding and writhing)  Assonance is more obvious when it falls on the stressed syllable in the word.  It’s a more subtle effect than alliteration.  It can be used for creating distinctive moods and highlighting feelings.  e.g. long vowel sounds (oozing, easy, slow, laze, floating) sound peaceful, especially when combined with soft consonant sounds. Short vowel sounds, especially combined with harsh consonants, speed up the pace and *can* sound angry: whips, flashing, flickering, thumps. |

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| **ONOMATOPEIA**  When words have a very close match between their consonant and vowel sounds and their meaning: e.g. bang, clatter, bash, whizz.  Words that are invented to mimic a sound: meow, baa, splish-splosh. |

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