

# **A Comparative Study of Sound Devices Employed in Selected Poems of Robert Louis Stevenson and William Blake**

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## **Abstract**

Learning English is appealing to some students due to sound devices employed by poets. Thus, the classroom becomes alive when poems are recited or read aloud. In fact, sound devices play a pivotal role in dealing with poetry as sounds are related to music which can heighten students' motivation in learning. In EFL/ESL contexts, ways of dealing with sound devices embedded in poetry have been usually left out compared with other poetic devices. Therefore, this study is an attempt to explore sound devices buried in poetry. Four sound devices under investigation include alliteration, assonance, consonance and onomatopoeia from selected poems of Robert Louis Stevenson and William Blake. In this paper, ten selected poems were analysed carefully at the phonological level. The results of the study show that 423 sound devices were collected in the selected poems. They constitute 46.57 % of assonance, 21.99 % of alliteration, 20.57 % of consonance and 10.87 % of onomatopoeia. These sound devices which are fascinating and inspiring were uncovered through a thorough analysis of each poem by two famous poets. They can display poets' beautiful and creative use of language in poetry.

**Key words:** sound devices, alliteration, assonance, consonance, onomatopoeia

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