

12.3

Name: _____

Date: _____

Poetic Devices

Now it's time to explore the way this poem uses poetic devices. To do this, you will need to use things you learned from other lessons in the poetry unit. Think back to the different kinds of poetic devices you have learned about so far. Thayer uses a lot of them in his long poem!

Answer the following questions, consulting the poem as needed, to think more about which devices he used and why he chose them.

1. In stanzas 1 and 2, the phrases “sickly silence” and “deep despair” are examples of which poetic device?

2. Poets often use alliteration to add emphasis to certain details. Look back at the first two stanzas of “Casey at the Bat.” Why might the “sickly silence” and “deep despair” be important things to emphasize here?

3. Stanza 4 describes how Blake “tore the cover off the ball.” The poet uses figurative language here; Blake did not really tear up the ball. What is the figurative meaning of this statement?
