

# What is anaphora?

Anaphora is the repetition of a word or sequence of words at the beginning of a line. The repetitiveness of the words makes them easier to remember and gives the text a more rhythmic sound. The purpose is to emphasize the meaning behind the writing or evoke strong emotions in the reader.

# WHEN IS ANAPHORA USED?

**PROSE** 

SPEECHES

2

**SONG LYRICS** 

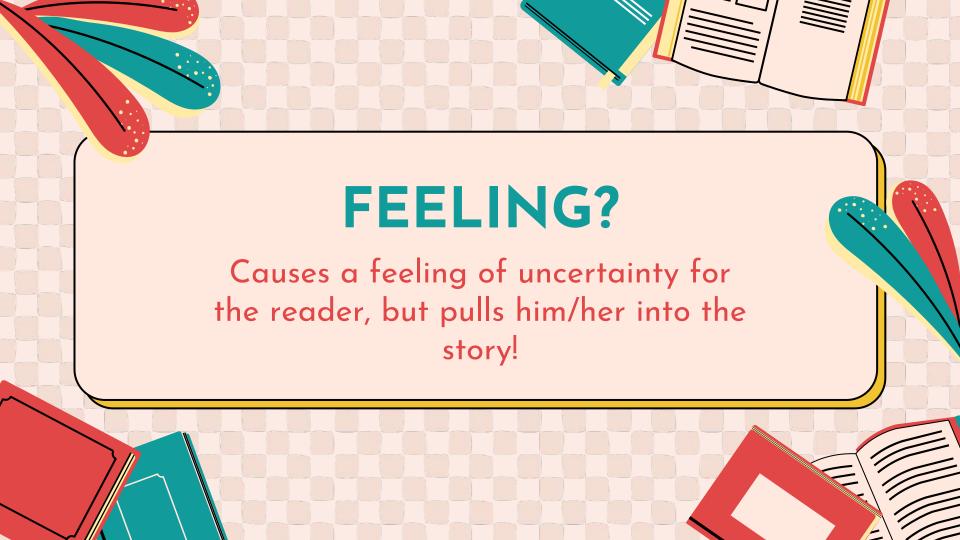
4

**POETRY** 

# **ANAPHORA IN PROSE**

Charles Dickens, a famous author, used anaphora quite a bit in his writing. One of the most recognized examples is in his book, A Tale of Two Cities:

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair.



#### **ANAPHORA IN SONG LYRICS**

Sam Cooke emphasizes his love by using What feeling anaphora:

tor

Now I don't claim to be an A student,

But I'm trying to be

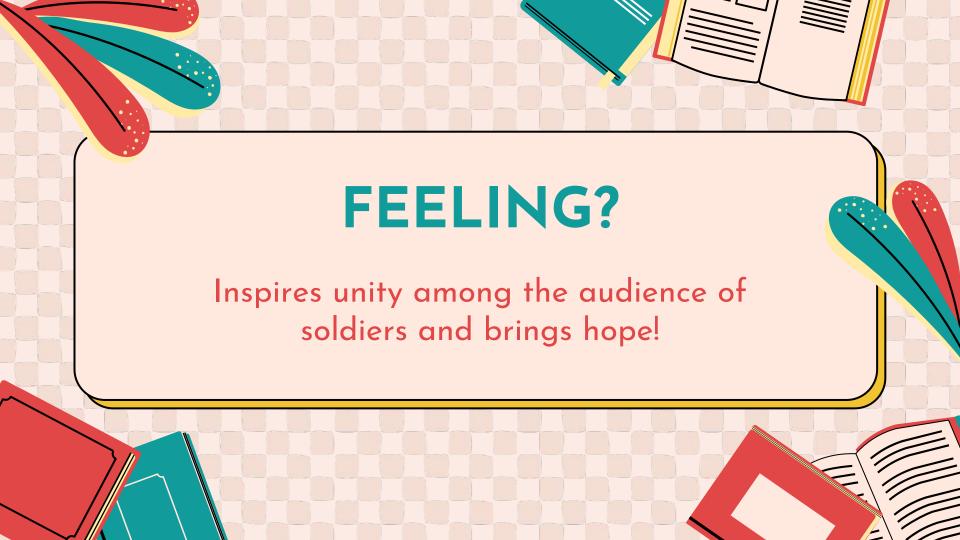
What about these lyrics?

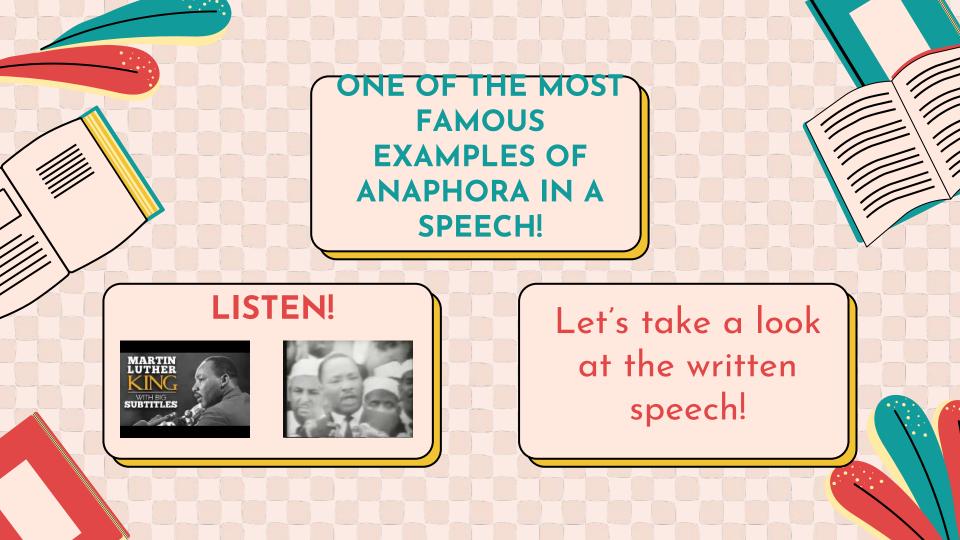


### **ANAPHORA IN SPEECHES**

British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, used anaphora in a speech during World War II:

We shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air, we shall defend our island, whatever the cost may be.





#### **REPEATED WORDS & PHRASES**

One hundred years later

Call attention to how long this struggle has been going on have a dream

Emphasizes the hopes he has for the future

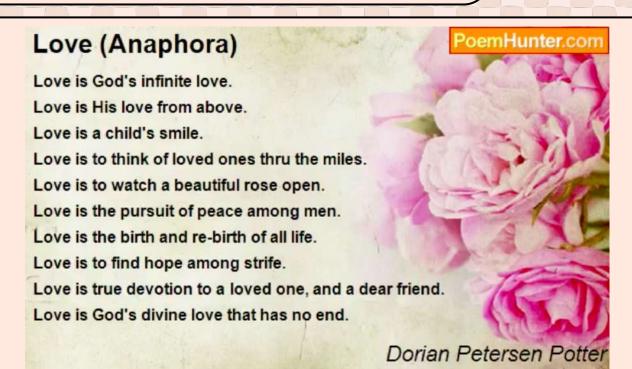
With this faith

Highlights his trust that things will improve

Let freedom ring

Inspires a vision of freedom for all

#### **ANAPHORA IN POETRY**



#### **PLANNING FOR ANAPHORA POEMS**

You are going to write an anaphora poem about yourself. Look at these options or come up with your own!

"I am...'

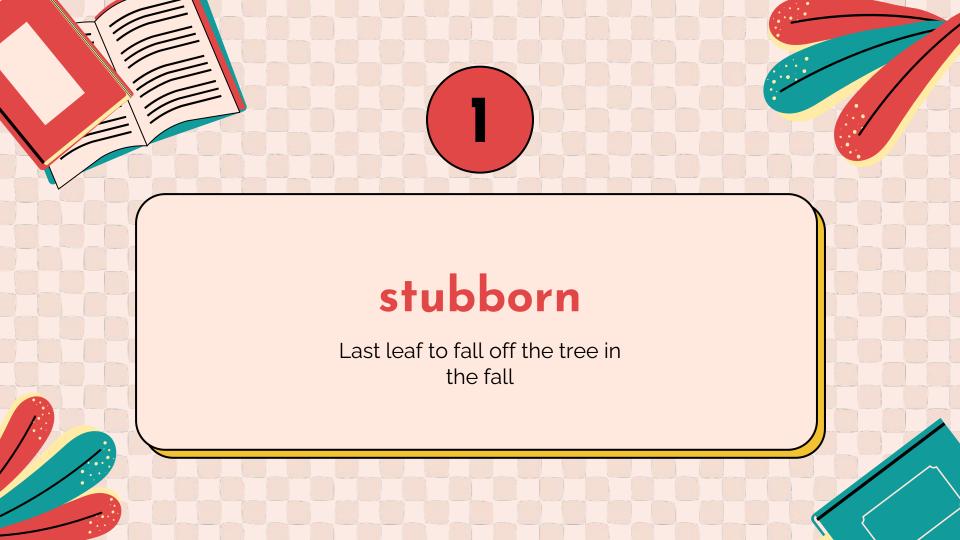
"My body is..."

"I consist of..."

# **PLANNING FOR ANAPHORA POEMS**

Consider ways that you can describe yourself and your personality. What things are most important to you? How would others describe you?

How can you represent those things without saying "I am" Let me show you what I mean...









# **Anaphora Example**

#### Anaphora Poem

By Mrs. Kelly

- I am like the water rushing over the rapids.
- I am like the last leaf to fall off the tree in autumn.
- I am like a beehive constructed of perfectly matched hexagons.
- I am like a sunflower that opens wide to the sun, only to close and go limp when the sun stops shining.
- I am like the rings of a tree trunk that can't lie about its age.



### WRITING AN ANAPHORA POEM

Turn to page 95 in your Poet's Journal and let's turn our ideas into an anaphora poem!

#### WRITING AN ANAPHORA POEM

If you finish that anaphora poem, use another sheet from the back of your Poet's Journal and try this one! Write a poem about what bugs you.

#### What Bugs Me

When my teacher tells me to write a poem tonight.
When my mother tells me to clean up my room.
When my sister practices her violin while I'm watching TV.
When my father tells me to turn off the TV and do my homework.

When my brother picks a fight with me and I have to go to bed early.

When my teacher asks me to get up in front of the class and read the poem I wrote on the school bus this morning.

# SHARING YOUR ANAPHORA POEMS

IN PARTNERS OR SMALL GROUPS, SHARE THE POEMS YOU WROTE

# Extra Anaphora Lesson (15-20 minutes)

