

The Alliterative Long Line

Concepts

Alliterative rule of precedence The tendency for a noun, adjective, infinitive, or participle to carry single alliteration when the other lift is a finite verb

Crossed alliteration An ABAB pattern of alliteration

Double alliteration A line with two alliterating syllables in the a-verse

Four-syllable principle The rule that any verse must have at least four syllables

Left dominance The tendency for the first nominal in a two-nominal, single-alliteration (a-)verse to carry the alliteration

Single alliteration A line with one alliterating syllable in the a-verse

Transverse alliteration An ABBA pattern of alliteration