Silly Elegies

In order to refresh your memory on some of the literary terms that have been beaten into your heads over the past 12 years, as well as get to know your classmates, you are going to write an elegy, honoring one of your classmates.

\*Here’s the catch: your elegy must make use of AT LEAST three of the literary terms listed on the back of this sheet.\*

**\* Your elegy must be at least 10 lines long and have a regular rhyme scheme\***

Once everyone is finished, you will read your elegy aloud as a way of introducing your partner to the class.

**Your name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**The Dearly Deceased:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Potential Interview Question List:**

1. What is one thing you would like others to know about you.
2. What is your favorite movie?
3. What is your dream job? Why?
4. If you could be anywhere but here, where would you be? Why?
5. What is your feeling about school and the new school year?
6. What car would you love to drive?
7. Describe your appearance or sense of style in one sentence.
8. Do you play or watch any sports?
9. What is the best/worst book you have ever had to read?
10. What are your favorite music groups?

Example Silly Elegy:

*Here lies Ms. Shields today,*

*She'd've traveled the world if she'd had her way.*

*If she'd written a novel, the very best,*

*Then she’d never have graded a test.*

*Oh Life, why must you be so short?*

*The pen drove her to her last report.*

*Last year she went to Mugglefest,*

*Waiting for* [*Harry*](http://suite101.com/article/harry-potter-book-six-activity-a20312) *like the rest.*

*She once rode a beautiful mustang,*

*The wind in her hair, her heart sang.*

*She loved to play sports, especially softball.*

*When the Steelers played, she loved it all.*

*Though she will truly be missed,*

*Truly, she will miss you all.*

Literary terms:

1. **Simile**- a comparison using "like" or "as" (as pretty as a picture)
2. **Metaphor**-a comparison without using like or as (The angry man was a tornado of action. The girl thought that life was a fashion show. )
3. **Alliteration**- the repetition of same or similar consonant sounds ("Peter, Peter, Pumpkin Eater...")
4. **Oxymoron-** a literary device which combines two contradictory terms ("almost exactly twelve o'clock", "act naturally", "minor crisis", "jumbo shrimp")
5. **Hyperbole-** a literary device in which exaggeration is used for emphasis or effect (ex. I am starving; this book weighs a ton.)
6. **Litotes**- a literary device in which a deliberate understatement is used for emphasis or effect (Bill Gates saying “I make a living,” "The grave's a fine a private place,
But none, I think, do there embrace." Andrew Marvell, "To His Coy Mistress")
7. **Personification**- literary device in which a non-human object or being is given human characteristics (the sun kissed the petals; Fate stood waiting at the end of the street)
8. **Onomatopoeia** - words that sounds like the word to which it refers (ex: buzz, smack, zip)
9. **Allusion-** a passing or casual reference; an incidental mention of something, either directly or by implication (ex. “I was surprised his nose was not growing like Pinocchio’s.” “He was a real Romeo with the ladies.” “Chocolate was her Achilles’ heel.”)
10. **Anaphora**-the intentional repetition of words or phrases at the beginning of successive lines, stanzas, sentences, or paragraphs. (ex. “blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy, Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God)
11. **Chiasmus**-a figure of speech in which two successive phrases or clauses are parallel in syntax, but reverse in the order the analogous words. (“Pleasure’s a sin, and sometimes sin’s a pleasure”)
12. **Synecdoche**-figure of thought in which the term for part of something is used to represent the whole, or, less commonly, the term for the whole is used to represent a part (ex. An athlete nicknamed “muscles”)
13. **Metonymy**-a figure of thought in which something closely related to the object is used in place of it (ex. “the throne” or “scepter” for king, the Oval Office for the U.S. President)
14. **Apostrophe**-an address to a dead or absent person or to an inanimate object or abstract concept.