

Mr. Stratton's "Lit in English Language" : Block F/E
Notes on Scansion (Supplement these in your English Notebook)

1. SCANSION: The Measurement of the RHYTHMIC COMPONENTS in a line of Poetry. (Even Prose can be scanned: $\cup \quad / \quad \cup \quad \cup \quad /$
 I went / to the store

2. Scansion is about SYLLABLES rather than words. Count syllables accurately and mark each one!

3. The Following Parts of Speech must carry a stress (1 or more, depending on the number of syllables in the word), $\cup \quad / \quad / \quad \cup \quad / \quad \cup$

a. NOUNS STONE TABLE BARITONE MINNESOTA

b. ACTION VERBS: SING FROLIC BEAUTIFY

c. DESCRIPTIVE ADJECTIVES:
 BROWN FELLOW LAVENDER

d. DESCRIPTIVE ADVERBS:

He runs FAST A horse runs Faster

e. EXCLAMATIONS: OUCH! HURRAH!

4. The Following Parts of Speech are usually not stressed, but may carry a stress under certain conditions:

PRONOUNS; PREPOSITIONS; CONJUNCTIONS; DEFINITE or INDEFINITE ARTICLES; FORMS OF VERB "TO BE" (IS, WAS); PREFIXES & SUFFIXES (The Root of the word receives the stress).

5. FOOT: Unit of Measurement in a line of Poetry. Here are the basic Poetic Feet: $/ =$ Stressed Syllable $\cup =$ Unstressed

IAMB: $\cup /$ (c. 65%)

TROCHEE: $/ \cup$ } c. 25%

ANAPEST: $\cup \cup /$ }

DACTYL: $/ \cup \cup$ (very rare in English)

PYRRHIC: $\cup \cup$ (" " " ")

SPONDEE: $/ /$ (c. 5 or 6%)

Syllable
 only these feet
 may be found
within a line of
 poetry

SPECIAL CASES (found only at the end of a line)

* "TRUNCATED" TROCHEE: $/ (x)$

FEMININE ENDING: \cup (a left-over syllable, not a

$/ \cup \quad / \cup \quad / \cup \quad / (x)$
 * Tiger! Tiger! burning bright

Assignment for Wednesday

Scan This Poem and Divide Each Line into Feet
(to be passed in)

"Heaven-Haven"
(A Nun Takes The Veil)

I have desired to go
Where springs not fail,
To fields where flies no sharp and sided hail,
And a few lilies blow.

5 And I have asked to be
Where no storms come,
Where the green swell is in the heavens dumb,
And out of the swing of the sea.

Gerald Manley Hopkins, S.C.
(1844-1889)