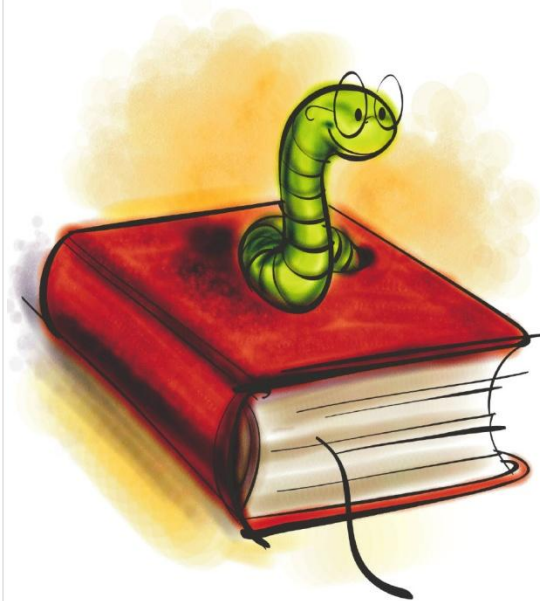


Reading Literature: Kennings



- One of the literary devices popular in the Anglo-Saxon Old English poetry tradition is the **kenning**.
- **Kenning** - a literary device in which a noun is renamed in a creative way using a compound word or union of two separate words to combine ideas

- If you call "*school*" a "*scholar's home*" -- then you have created a kenning.
- If you tell your friends that your "*parents*" are the "*car loaners*" -- then you have created a kenning.
- The folks at Coca-Cola might agree that a cold "*Coke*" is "*humanity's beverage*."

Notes: Four Types of Kennings

Open Kenning (adjective noun format)

- toxic chitchat *gossip*
- walking dead *zombie*
- coldest seeds *snow*



Hyphenated Kenning (noun-noun format)

- the cry of the sea-fowl
- death-noise of birds
- white-walker-slayer



Four Types of Kennings

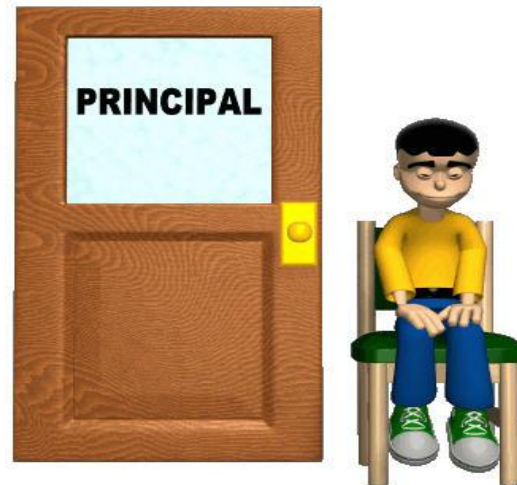
Possessive Kenning ('s or s' format)

- heaven's darkness *nighttime*
- bird's road *sky*



Prepositional Kenning (add any preposition)

- giver of rings *king*
- door of doom *scary place*



Application of Skill: Consider carefully how you could creatively rename each of the following through the use of the kenning techniques: Open Kenning, Hyphenated Kenning, Possessive Kenning and Prepositional Kenning.

1. a doctor

6. police

2. a book

7. pop tarts

3. firemen

8. music

4. television

9. cell phone

5. meatloaf – *beef bread*

10. computer - *data box*

Creative Writing: Kennings Poem

- **What is a Kennings Poem?**

-A Kenning is a two word phrase describing an object or person often using a **metaphor**. A Kennings poem is a **riddle** made up of several lines of kennings to describe something or someone.

- **What is the structure of a Kennings poem?**

-A Kennings poem consists of several **stanzas** of compound words or the union of two or more separate words. It can be made up of any number of Kennings.

- **Kennings Poem Structure for English 12**

-Title: A Kennings Poem By (Your Name)

-Four 4 line stanzas {Each stanza reflects the use of each type of kenning: open kenning, hyphenated kenning, possessive kenning, and prepositional kenning}

-Last two lines end with, “Unlike any other, A/The/My _____”

-Poem must be neatly handwritten or typed with an illustrated background.

A Kennings Poem

I. (Open)

Moody thumb

sucker

Active teddy

thrower

Sweet anything

chewer

Tiresome slave

employer

II. (Preposition)

Drinker of Milk

Giver of Kisses

Destroyer of Toys

Fashionista of Dresses

III. (Hyphenated)

Dolly-hugger

Calm-destroyer

Nappy-leaker

Scream-shreiker

IV. (Possessive)

Playfellow's friend

Daddy's girl

Mommy's precious

Family's pearl

*Unlike any other,
My sister.*



PART 4: APPLICATION OF SKILLS – Answer the following questions about Kennings.

9. What type of kenning is **SACHARRINE STICK**? This kenning renames a lollipop.
10. What type of kenning is **BONE-HOUSE**? This kenning renames the body.
11. What type of kenning is **UMBRELLA OF NATURE**? This kenning renames a tree.
12. What type of kenning is **GRAVE'S EMBRACE**? This kenning renames death.
13. Create **5** kennings for the noun **ROLLERCOASTER**.
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.
 - D.
 - E.

PART 4: APPLICATION OF SKILLS – Answer the following questions about Kennings.

9. Which type of kenning follows the **ADJECTIVE NOUN** format?
10. Which type of kenning follows the **NOUN-NOUN** format?
11. What type of kenning is **VISION IN A BOX**? This kenning renames a television.
12. What type of kenning is **FIRE’S NEMESIS**? This kenning renames firemen.
13. Create **5** kennings for the noun **ROLLERCOASTER**.
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.
 - D.
 - E.