

# Lesson Two

The planes groaned overhead.



Bombs threw themselves out of the plane.

The planes threatened the air raid siren.

The planes ran across the sky.

The planes hummed.

The planes played hide-and-seek with the clouds.

The planes gathered/crowded.

- Here are some examples of personification based on the image.
- Can you think of anymore?

# That Night of Death

## Learning Objective:

- ✓ To investigate a poem written about a bombing strike on Coventry.

# That Night of Death

- Highlight and label all of the poetic devices you can find in the poem. Consider if it uses any of the following:

- ☐ Repetition
- ☐ Alliteration
- ☐ Similes and metaphors
- ☐ Personification
- ☐ Rhyming
- ☐ Powerful verbs and adjectives
- ☐ Any other devices you can find

# THAT NIGHT OF DEATH

by John J.Rattigan, November 1940

Who can forget that night of death,  
Wrought by the sky devil's fiery breath,  
Who can forget that night of pain,  
Dealt out by a madman's twisted brain.

We shall not forget as our homes we rebuild,  
On bomb-scarred ground where innocent were killed,  
We shall not forget as we look at the land,  
Where once stood a building so stately and grand.

Even God's house is not safe from this Hun,  
Who bombs and destroys at the setting of the sun.  
So let him send over his cowardly hordes,  
Who shatter the homes of paupers and Lords.

That night was severe, there is no doubt,  
We had a hard blow, but they can't knock us out.  
For our men are of steel, our women won't kneel,  
Nor children for mercy plea.  
A new hope will arise, when the world is free,  
From the rubble and ashes of Coventry.

1.What does wrought by the sky devil's fiery breath tell us about the sky that night?

2. We shall not forget as our homes we rebuild?

What does this line tell us about the damage to the house?

What other information can you learn from this poem about the night the bombs struck Coventry?

# What can we learn?

- Write down any information the poem tells us about the bomb strike on Coventry.