

### III: DEFINITIONS OF THE MOST COMMON "FEET" IN ACCENTUAL-SYLLABIC METER.

- 1) A poetic foot is a measured unit of meter, made up of stressed and unstressed syllables.
- 2) The iamb is the most common foot. It is a short stress followed by a long one. An example is *about*.
- 3) A trochee is a less commonly used foot, but it is clear and striking at the start of a line. It is a long stress followed by a short one. An example is *That is. Or dropsy*.
- 4) A dactyl is a long stress followed by two short ones. An example is *happily*.
- 5) An anapest is two short stresses followed by a long one. An example is *in a tree*.
- 6) A spondee is two long stresses. An example is *humdrum*.