

# Alliteration

Repetition of the same beginning sound in a sequence.

Examples :

*Drew drew Drew*  
*Reshetar rides rollercoasters*  
*drowning in debt*  
*a sea of sea shells*

# Hyperbole

A figure of speech in which exaggeration is used for emphasis or effect.

An extravagant statement or figure of speech not intended to be taken literally.

## Examples:

*I waited an eternity for summer to get here!*

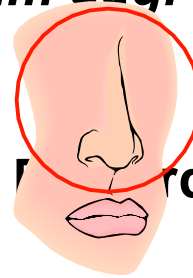
*He could have slept for a year.*

*This book weighs a ton.*

# Imagery

Descriptive words or phrases that appeal to the 5 senses: sight, sound, touch, taste, and smell- creating a picture in the reader's mind.

***“He struggle up to the surface and tried to cry out, but the wash from the speeding yacht slapped him in the face and the salt water in his open mouth made him aag.”***



The Nose



Literary Terminology

# Metaphor

A figure of speech in which two things are compared, usually by saying one thing is another, or by substituting a more descriptive word for the more common or usual word that would be expected.

## Examples :

*the world's a stage*  
*he was a lion in battle*  
*drowning in debt*  
*a sea of troubles.*

# Onomatopoeia

A figure of speech in which words are used to imitate sounds.

Examples :

*crash*

*buzz*

*quack*

*zoom*

# Personification

A figure of speech in which things or ideas are given human attributes.

**Examples :**

*Dead leaves dance in the wind*

*Blind justice*

*Winter wrapped her cold fingers around me*

# Repetition

A word or line that is repeated, usually to evoke an emotion or create a rhythm.

*“There were so many important moments. If I’d missed the ticket, I wouldn’t be here. If I hadn’t gone to the show, I wouldn’t be here. If I hadn’t stuck around to see what Steve was up to, I wouldn’t be here. If I hadn’t stolen Madam Octa, I wouldn’t be here. If I’d said no to Mr. Crepsley’s offer, I wouldn’t be here.*

*A world of “ifs”, but it made no difference. What was done was done. If I could go back in time...” ~Cirque Du Freak by Darren Shan*

Literary Terminology

# Rhyme

The occurrence of the same sound at the end of two or more words.

## Examples :

*cat / hat*

*desire / fire*

*steak / fake*



## Simile

A figure of speech in which two things are compared using the word “like” or “as”.

**Examples :**

*She felt like a wilted flower.*

*The boy charged in the room like a bull!*

*This class is like a 3 ring circus!*

Literary Terminology

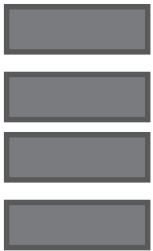
# Stanza

Two or more lines of poetry that together form one of the divisions of a poem.

poem = stanza as story = paragraph?

Stanza= **paragraph of the poem**

Read the following poem- how many stanzas are there?



This drawing represents a poem with 2 stanza's with 4 lines each.

Literary Terminology

## **Pun:**

The **use of a word** in a way that **plays** on its **different meanings**.

## **Example:**

Noticing the bunch of bananas, the hungry gorilla went ape.

I recently spent money on detergent to unclog my kitchen sink. It was money down the drain.

## Symbolism:

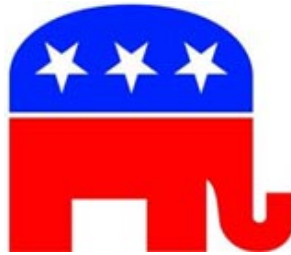
The use of **one thing** to **represent** another.

## Example:

A dove is a symbol of peace.



The donkey symbolizes the Democratic Party.



The elephant symbolize the Republican Party.



The flag represents freedom.

Literary Terminology

# IRONY

**Language that conveys a certain idea by saying just the opposite.**

## Examples:

The Titanic was promoted as being 100% unsinkable; but, in 1912 the ship sank on its maiden voyage.

You beg your parents to let you have a kitten, then you discover you're deathly allergic to them.

# IDIOM

Idioms are **phrases** or **expressions** that have **hidden meanings**. The expressions don't mean exactly what the words say. NOT LITERAL

The language peculiar to a people or to a district, community, or class : dialect

## **Example:**

It's raining cats and dogs.

Things got a little out of hand.

Does the cat have your tongue.

# ALLUSION

**Reference to a statement, person, place, event, or thing that is known from literature, history, religion, myth, politics, sports, science, or the arts**

**Examples:**

***"Christy didn't like to spend money. She was no Scrooge, but she seldom purchased anything except the bare necessities".***

Literary Terminology

**Allusion:**

**Ex: The students were sure that their teacher had drunk from the river Styx because of her complete inattention to their pranks.**

**Your example—think of a recent example you've heard or seen in which someone references a well-known work**



# ANALOGY

**A comparison made between two things that may initially seem to have little in common**

**Used for illustration and/or argument.**

**Example:**

**Hand is to glove : Foot is to sock**

**Happy is to sad : Hot is to cold**

# **ASSONANCE:** THE REPETITION OF VOWEL SOUNDS.

## **Example:**

Days wane away

Each beach beast thinks he's the best beast

The only other sound's the sweep

# EUPHEMISM

**to speak well in the place of the blunt, disagreeable, terrifying or offensive term.**

**Example:**

death becomes “to pass away”

Victorians first used “limb” for leg

Letting someone go instead of firing someone

Use the rest room instead of go to the bathroom

# DIDACTIC

**Fiction or nonfiction that teaches a specific lesson or moral or provides a model of correct behavior or thinking.**

**Examples:**

**Aesop's Fables-**"The Tortoise and the Hare"  
*(Plodding wins the race.)*

**"The Lion and the Mouse"**-*(Little friends may prove great friends)*

# PARADOX

**A seeming contradiction.**

Examples:

**“It was the best of times. It was the worst of times.”**

**“You shouldn’t go in the water until you know how to swim.”**

**“Be cruel to be kind.”-*from Hamlet by Shakespeare***

**"Some day you will be old enough to start reading fairy tales again." (C.S. Lewis to his godchild, Lucy Barfield, to whom he dedicated *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*)**

# SATIRE

A **work** that **makes fun** of **something** or **someone**.

**Examples:**

**“Weekend Update” from Saturday Night Live**

**Most political cartoons in newspapers and magazines**

# SOLILOQUY

A **monologue** in which a **character expresses** his or her **thoughts** to the **audience** and **does not intend** the **other characters to hear them.**

**Examples:**

**“To be or not to be, that is the question.”** *from Hamlet*  
*written by Shakespeare*

# WORD CHOICE

**Word Choice** is the use of rich, colorful, precise language that communicates not just in a functional way, but in a way that moves and enlightens the reader. In descriptive writing, strong **Word Choice** resulting in imagery, especially sensory,

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# VARIED SENTENCE STRUCTURE

Too many simple and compound sentences can make writing sound choppy, but too many complex and compound-complex sentences can make writing difficult to follow. **Strive for a balance** by combining sentences of various structures and lengths throughout your paper.

**Simple sentence:** Contains a single subject and verb.

- **Example:** The cell phone rang right before class.

**Compound sentence:** Contains two complete sentences (independent clauses) joined by a coordinating conjunction (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so).

- **Example:** The cell phone rang right before class, so the student quickly turned off her phone's ringer.

**Complex sentence:** Contains an independent clause joined by one or more dependent clauses.

**Example:** To avoid an interruption during class, the student turned off her phone's ringer.

**Compound-complex sentence:** Contains a combination of a compound sentence and a complex sentence.

**Example:** In order to keep her attention focused on class activities, the student turned off her phone's ringer, and she put her ear buds in her backpack.