



Alliteration

Alliteration is the repetition of a consonant sound at the beginning of words.

“sweet smell of success”

Assonance

Repetition of similar vowel sounds followed by different constant sounds in words that are close together.

“mellow wedding bells”

Connotation

Various feelings, images, and memories surrounding a word make up its connotation.

“thrifty versus penny-pinching”

Expanded Moment

Slowing down to expand a moment can stretch out tension.

“She stopped, checked her watch, straightened her skirt and pushed the door open.”

Foreshadowing

Foreshadowing is the use of hints or clues to suggest what will happen later in literature.

- builds suspense
- prepares the reader for events

Early in the movie, at a simple visit to the store, the car won't start. Later in the movie, when the star attempts to escape danger, the car won't start. It is believable, because the writer has prepared us for this.

Idiom

An idiom or idiomatic expression refers to a construction or expression in one language that cannot be matched or directly translated word-for-word in another language.

“a bee in her bonnet”

Hyphenated Modifier

A hyphenated modifier is a compound adjective or adverb created by hyphenating multiple words together that work as one word.

“bulletproof-waterproof-fireproof-and-every-other-proof safe”

Imagery

Words and phrases, called images, help a reader mentally experience what the characters in the literary selection are actually experiencing.

“green, tepid water”

Magic Three

Called the 'rule of three', this principle suggests that words, phrases and events occurring three times are most pleasing to the ear and the audience.

The Three Little Pigs

"He swung his bat, hit the ball and ran to base."

Metaphor

A metaphor compares two unlike things that have something in common. The comparison is made **without** the use of *like* or *as*.

*"The sun **was a flower**."* *"The football player **mowed** down the opposing line."*

Onomatopoeia

The use of words to imitate sounds is called onomatopoeia.

"Bang, pop, hiss, sizzle, crackle"

Oxymoron

Rhetorical figure in which incongruous or contradictory terms are combined.

"deafening silence"

Parallelism

The use of similar or identical language, structures, events or ideas in different parts of a text is parallelism.

Personification

Inanimate objects or abstract concepts are given human qualities.

"The rain danced." *"The wind screamed."*

Repetition

The use of a specific word, phrase, or structure repeated several times, usually in close proximity, to emphasize a particular idea.

Simile

A comparison between two unlike things that have something in common is called a *simile*. A simile always **uses the words like or as** to make a comparison.

"...moved like elephants"

Symbolism

The use of specific objects or images to represent abstract ideas is symbolism. A symbol must be tangible (visible) while the idea it represents must be abstract or universal.

Doves generally symbolize peace.