

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Alliteration: using the same consonant sound to start two or more nearby words in a sentence

- *The friendly fog flirted with the water on the lake.*

Allusion: making a reference to a part of another work of literature or historical story

- *It felt like we were living in a Jack London novel there that night.*

Analogy: two unlike things being compared with two other unlike things.

- *Tires carved lines in the snow on the road like sprinters stay in their lanes in a race.*

Assonance: using the same vowel sound in two or more nearby words in a sentence.

- *Hope is a pole with holes beside so many roads.*

Consonance: using the same consonant sound at the middle or end of two or more nearby words in a sentence.

- *The sloshing answered wishes I'd treasured since childhood.*

Double Entendre: using a word or phrase open to two interpretations, one of which is usually risqué or indecent.

- *The dry cleaner sign said, "Drop your pants here, and you'll receive prompt attention."*

Hyperbole: a complete exaggeration to make a point, often used to create a humorous or mean effect.

➤ *The hill was covered in a billion flowers.*

Idiom: a word or phrase that does not literally mean what it says; it has some other meaning.

➤ *The reporters wanted to know what the buzz was around town.*

Irony: a contrast between what is expected and what actually happens.

➤ *The fireman had never told anyone he was afraid of fire.*

Litote: an understated idea expressed by two negative things together.

➤ *This is no ordinary drought we're going through.*

Metaphor: two unlike things compared together without using the words *like* or *as*.

- *Little snowflake daggers poked my skin.*

Metonymy: a word or phrase that is used to stand in for another word.

- *After leading his countrymen in a revolt, he claimed the throne.*

Ode: poetry that shares strong feelings about something, exaggerates the good parts, packed with meaning.

- *Oh, the sunset above the clouds, you are a flaming machete of eternity.*

Onomatopoeia: the act of spelling out the way a word sounds.

- *The steam whooshed through the manhole cover.*

Oxymoron: when apparently contradictory words appear next to each other.

- *He came home and the barbed wire fence was found missing.*

Parody: a humorous or exaggerated imitation of something.

- *At the Star Wars coffee house, their motto is “May the Froth be with You.”*

Personification: giving humanlike qualities to non-human objects or animals.

- *The flower stood tall amid the clovers.*

Pun: a word or phrase that has a usually comical second meaning...you might even roll your eyes at it.

- *I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. It's impossible to put it down.*

Sarcasm: the use of irony to mock someone or show you think they're lesser.

- *Speed Limit: 50...unless, of course, Mr. Important is running late.*

Simile: two unlike things compared together using the words *like* or *as*.

- *The weather is cooking like a barbeque.*

Symbol: an item or thing that represents some larger idea of significance.

- *The stars and stripes flew high over the harbor.*

Synecdoche: a rare figurative language, uses one detail of a person (or thing) to represent the entire person.

- *The crowd applauded when the pair of fire sticks took the stage.*

Verbal Irony: saying one thing, but meaning another.

- *The billboard said, "Texting while driving KILLS. For more driving tips, text SAFETY to 79191."*