

Figurative Language and Poetic Device Study Guide

Simile	<p>Two different objects compared by stating how one is "like" or "as" the other; uses the words "like" or "as"</p> <p>Example: Jamie was as white as a ghost when she saw her test grade</p> <p><i>Jamie is compared to a ghost, but this is a simile because we use the word "as" in the statement</i></p>
Metaphors	<p>Two different objects compared by stating one IS another;</p> <p>Example: Pat is a bottomless well when it comes to eating ice cream.</p> <p><i>Pat and a bottomless well are compared</i></p>
Idioms	<p>Sayings where the speaker's words mean something different from what they meant</p> <p>Example: raining cats and dogs</p> <p><i>It is raining really hard (water) - not actual animals</i></p>
Exaggerations (Hyperbole)	<p>Grossly overstating or understating</p> <p>Example: I am so hungry I could eat a horse. <i>I would never eat a horse, but being so hungry you could eat a lot!</i></p>
Alliterations	<p>Phrase where all the words start with the same sound</p> <p>Example: Friday, Phil phoned Phyllis</p>
Onomatopoeia	<p>Words that sound like their meaning</p> <p>Example: splish splash <i>the words themselves sound like the water splashing</i></p>
Personification	<p>"life" is given to non living things in writing...</p> <p>Example: the wind whispered soothing words as it blew into my faces</p>
Meter / Rhythm	<p>Beat set by the syllables of the words, rhyme, and punctuation used in writing</p>
Imagery	<p>Written with vivid words that one can picture what the author is attempting to write about</p>
Symbolism	<p>Words, pictures, images, and themes used that stand for something else</p> <p>Example: use of the bald eagle to stand for the ideas of America</p>
Palindrome	<p>Words, sentences, or poems that are the same read forward or backwards</p> <p>Example: radar, eye, racecar....</p>