

FIGURES OF SPEECH

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- A figure of speech is a deviation from the ordinary use of words in order to increase their effectiveness. Basically, it is a figurative language that may consist of a single word or phrase. It may be a simile, a metaphor or personification to convey the meaning other than the literal meaning.

- **TYPES OF FIGURES OF SPEECH**

- The figures of speech list is over a hundred but some commonly used types are given along with examples.

- **SIMILE**

- In simile two unlike things are explicitly compared. For example, “She is like a fairy”. A simile is introduced by words such as *like, so, as etc.*
- In simile two different things are compared with respect to common quality . The comparison is done using the words as, so and like.
- The type of comparison is referred to as direct comparison as we know the quality which is being compared.

Examples:

- The girl sang like a cuckoo.
- The room is as hot as furnace.

METAPHOR :

It is an informal or implied simile in which words like, as, so are omitted.

This comparison is of indirect type as we don't know which quality is being compared.

For example: “He is like a lion (Simile) “and “He is a lion (metaphor)”.

1. She is a star of our family.
2. Camel is the ship of desert.

- **ALLITERATION**

- The repetition of the same letter(sound) or syllable at the beginning of two or more words is called alliteration.

For example,

- **B**ubbles rose and **b**urst around.
- **G**littering through the **g**loomy.

- Repetition

- A repetition is a figure of speech where In a word or a group of words or a sentence is repeated for poetic effect.

Example:

1. If you think **you can do it, you can do it.**
2. The film was **a waste** of money and **a waste** of time as well.

- **PERSONIFICATION**

- Personification is an attribution of personal nature, intelligence or character to an inanimate objects or abstract notions.
- For example, in some phrases we use, the furious storm, the thirsty ground, and the pitiless cold.

examples:

Little sorrows sit and weep.

The dish ran away with the spoon.

- **APOSTROPHE**

- It is a direct address to some inanimate thing or some abstract idea as if it were living person or some absent person as if it were present. In simple words we can say the hearing quality of livings is given to inanimate objects or abstract ideas.

- **Examples:**

- Roll on blue sky
- Oh, death, be not proud!

- **HYPERBOLE**

- Hyperbole is a statement made emphatic by overstatement. An exaggeration is made .
- She wept an ocean of tears.
- I have hears this story thousand times.

- **TRANSFERRED EPITHETS**

- In transferred epithets, the qualifying adjective is transferred from a person or thing to different object to which it does not belong.
- **Examples:**
 - The principal had a busy day.
 - The boy slept on a restless bed.

- **EUPHEMISM**

- By using the euphemism, we speak in agreeable and favourable terms of some person, object or event which is ordinarily considered unpleasant and disagreeable. Soft or mild terms are used to express a harsh or unpleasant thing.

For example,

- He is telling us a fairy tale. (a lie)
- He passed away after a brief illness.

- **PUN**

- This consists of a play on the various meanings of a word. Its effect is often ludicrous.
- **example:**
- Can you tickle the ribs of parasol?
- Does the needle ever wink it's eye?

- **ANTITHESIS**

- In antithesis, a striking opposition or contrast of words is made in the same sentence in order to secure emphasis.
- For example,
- United we stand divided we fall.
- Life is full of ups and downs.

- **OXYMORON**

- It is a figure of speech which combines two seemingly contradictory or incongruous words for sharp emphasis or effect.

For example,

- This is an open secret.
- He is regularly irregular.

- **INTERROGATION**

- This is a rhetorical mode of affirming or denying something more strongly than could be done in ordinary language.
- **Examples:**
 - Who can challenge the will of god?
 - How can you be so careless?

- **ONOMATOPOEIA**

- The formation of a word whose sound is made to suggest or echo the sense as in cuckoo, bang, growl, hiss. Words representing sounds are used.
- The train came whistling.
- Birds were chirping in the garden.

- **TAUTOLOGY**

- Tautology is meant for repeating the same fact or idea in different words. In simple words two different words having similar meaning are used.

Example:

- 1) It was adequate and enough.
- 2) The milk is pure and unadulterated.