**Symbiosis School, Nashik**

**STD: X Term 1 (20-21)**

**Subject: English Language & Literature**

**Literary Devices**

**(Figures of Speech)**

**Instructions:**

Write the given figures of speech in your notebook and give two examples of each, on your own.

* **Definition of Figure of Speech**

A figure of speech is a phrase or word having different meanings than its literal meanings. It conveys meaning by identifying or comparing one thing to another, which has connotation or meaning familiar to the audience. That is why it is helpful in creating vivid rhetorical effect.

1. **Alliteration:**

Alliteration is the repetition of the beginning sounds of neighboring words.

Examples:

* She sells seashells.
* Walter wondered where Winnie was.
* Blue baby bonnets bobbed through the bayou.
* Nick needed new notebooks.
* Fred fried frogs' legs on Friday.

1. **Repetition:**

Repetition is a literary device that repeats the same words or phrases a few times to make an idea clearer and more memorable.

Examples:

* If you think you can do it, you can do it.
* The bird said, “I don’t sing because I am happy, I am happy because I sing.”

1. **Anaphora:**

Anaphora is a technique where several phrases or verses begin with the same word or words.

Examples:

* I came, I saw, I conquered. - Julius Caesar
* Mad world! Mad kings! Mad composition!

1. **Euphemism:**

Euphemism is a mild, indirect, or vague term that often substitutes a harsh, blunt, or offensive term.

Examples:

* 'A little thin on top' instead of 'going bald.'
* 'Fell of the back of a truck' instead of 'stolen.'
* 'Letting you go' instead of 'firing you.'
* 'Passed away' instead of 'died.'
* 'Economical with the truth' instead of 'liar.'

1. **Hyperbole:**

Hyperbole uses exaggeration for emphasis or effect.

Examples:

* I've told you to stop a thousand times.
* I could do this forever.
* She's older than dirt.

1. **Irony:**

Irony occurs when there's a marked contrast between what is said and what is meant, or between appearance and reality.

Examples:

* "How nice!" she said, when I told her I had to work all weekend. **(Verbal irony)**
* A traffic cop gets suspended for not paying his parking tickets. **(Situational irony)**
* When the audience knows the killer is hiding in a closet in a scary movie, but the actors do not. **(Dramatic irony)**

1. **Metaphor:**

A metaphor makes a comparison between two unlike things or ideas.

Examples:

* Heart of stone.
* Time is money.
* The world is a stage.
* She's a night owl.
* He's an ogre.

1. **Simile :**

A simile is a comparison between two unlike things using the words "like" or "as."

Examples:

* As slippery as an eel
* Like peas in a pod
* As blind as a bat
* Eats like a pig
* As wise as an owl

1. **Onomatopoeia :**

Onomatopoeia is the term for a word that sounds like what it is describing.

Examples

* Whoosh
* Splat
* Buzz
* Click
* Oink

1. **Oxymoron :**

An oxymoron is two contradictory terms used together.

Examples:

* Peace force
* Kosher ham
* Jumbo shrimp
* Sweet sorrow
* Free market

1. **Personification :**

Personification gives human qualities to non-living things or ideas.

Examples:

* The flowers nodded.
* The snowflakes danced.
* The thunder grumbled.

1. **Synecdoche :**

Synecdoche occurs when a part is represented by the whole or, conversely, the whole is represented by the part.

Examples:

* Wheels - a car
* The police - one policeman
* Plastic - credit cards
* Coke - any cola drink
* Hired hands – workers

1. **Understatement :**

An understatement occurs when something is said to make something appear less important or less serious.

Examples:

* It's just a scratch - referring to a large dent.
* It's a little dry and sandy - referring to the driest desert in the world.
* The weather is cooler today - referring to sub-zero temperatures.
* It was interesting - referring to a bad or difficult experience.
* It stings a bit - referring to a serious wound or injury.

1. **Pun:** ​

A play on words, sometimes on different senses of the same word and sometimes on the similar sense or sound of different words

Example:

Jessie looked up from her breakfast and said, "A boiled egg every morning is hard to beat."

1. **Paradox:**

A statement that appears to contradict itself.

Example:

“This is the beginning of the end," said Eeyore, always the pessimist.

1. **Apostrophe:**

Directly addressing a nonexistent person or an inanimate object as though it were a living being.

Examples:

* "Oh, your car, you never work when I need you to," Bert sighed.
* Holy night! ...
* Then come, sweet death, and rid me of this grief.
* O, pardon me, thou bleeding piece of earth.

1. **Transferred epithet :**

In transferred epithets, the qualifying objective is transferred from a person to a thing as in phrases.

Examples:

* “Sleepless night”, “sunburn mirth”, and “melodious plain”.
* She looked at him through concerned eyes.

1. **Metonymy:**

Metonymy is a figure of speech in which one object or idea takes the place of another with which it has a close association. In fact, metonymy means “change of name.”

Examples:

* Joe’s new **ride** was expensive.

(Ride is metonymy for car)

* When I came to visit, my friend offered me a **cup.**

(Cup is metonymy for a beverage such as tea or coffee)

* I wish he would keep his **nose** out of the plans.

(Nose is metonymy for interest or attention)