**INTRODUCTION**

Literary Devices or Figurative Languages are use in most writing especially poems to give the reader a clearer understanding and meaning of certain ideas and feelings. They all are used for different purposes, and as such, the poets use them to their full advantage.

In this assignment, some devices were identified, explained and examined to show the effects they have on readers.**What Is A Literary Device?**

* Literary device is an element or an entirety of elements a writer deliberately uses in the structure of his work in order to make it unique. It's also called a literature motif, procedure or method.

**Some Literary Devices Are:**

* Visual imagery
* Alliteration
* Assonance
* Personification
* Simile
* Metaphor
* Onomatopoeia

**Visual Imagery**

1. Visual imagery helps the reader to imagine or have a picture of vivid description of the poem or story.
2. From the poem “Sonnet Composed upon West minister Bridge” by William Wordsworth, visual imagery is used in line 8 which states – “All bright and glittering in the smokeless air…”
3. This line gives the reader a picture of how shiny and clear the city looked without smoke that was given off by the factories on a daily basis.
4. This allows the reader to understand the point in which the speaker is trying to prove by expanding their level of imagination.

**Alliteration**

1. Alliteration is a literary device where words are used in quick succession and begin with letters belonging to the same sound group. Whether it is the consonant sound or a specific vowel group, the alliteration involves creating a repetition of similar sounds in the sentence.
2. From the poem “Le loupgarou” by Derek Walcott, alliteration is used in line 1, which states “…**t**ale **t**hat **t**hreaded **t**hrough **t**he **t**own…”.
3. This line means that gossip or faulty information being spread about old Le Brun was developing or spreading quickly throughout the village/town.
4. This line is effective because it allows the reader to question the validity of the story being spread (from the word ‘tale’), as well as to imagine the speed at which the ‘tale’ was being spread (from the words ‘**t**hreaded **t**hrough **t**he **t**own’.

**Assonance**

1. Assonance refers to repetition of sounds produced by vowels within a sentence or phrase.
2. From the poem “God’s Grandeur” by Gerard Manley Hopkins, assonance is used in line 6, which states “…And all is **s**eared with trade; **b**leared, **s**meared with toil...’’.
3. This line shows how almost everything on earth that has come under man’s influence is being destroyed or deteriorates.
4. This line is effective because it gives the visual imaginery of nature being destroyed because of the activities of man.

**Personification**

1. Personification is one of the most commonly used and recognized literary devices. It refers to the practice of attaching human traits and characteristics with inanimate objects, phenomena and animals.
2. From the poem “Sonnet Composed upon West minister Bridge” by William Wordsworth, personification is used in line 13, which states “Dear God! The very houses seem asleep”

1. This line is used to show that because of the inactivity of persons inside and outside of their houses, the houses seem to be quiet and at rest.
2. This line is very effective because it highlights the quiet and peaceful state of the houses, which can be compared to a human being who is asleep.

**Simile**

1. Similes are one of the most commonly used literary devices; referring to the practice of drawing parallels or comparisons between two unrelated and dissimilar things, people, beings, places and concepts. Similes are marked by the use of the words ‘as’ or ‘such as’ or ‘like’.
2. From the poem “A Contemplation Upon Flowers” by Henry King, simile is used in line 1, which states “ Brave flowers, that I could gallant it like you”
3. This line is saying that the persona wishes that he could be as brave as the flower. This implies that the persona does not think that he is brave, but a coward in the face of death.
4. This line is effective because it highlights that flowers have a brave appearance and humans too should possess brave qualities, like flowers, in every situation we encounter.

**Metaphor**

1. A metaphor is use to compare one thing, object or person to another. Whereas the simile says one thing is like another, whiles the metaphor says one thing is another.
2. From the poem “Forgive My Guilt” by Robert P. Tristram Coffin, metaphor is used in lines 20-21, which states “…Those slender flutes of sorrow never cease…”
3. The birds are compared to a flute, an instrument that plays eerie music. This emphasizes the sadness that is related to their death.
4. The effects of this line is to allow the reader to imagine distinctly how painstricken and horrified the birds sounded after they were shot.

**Onomatopoeia**

1. Onomatopoeia is the use of words which directly imitate sounds. The sound is an echo to the sense or meaning of the word.
2. From the poem “This is the dark time, my love”, onomatopoeia is used in line 10, which states “Whose boot of steel **tramps** down the slender grass?”
3. The onomatopoeia is ‘tramps’ and it allows the reader to picture the tramping sound of the boots as well as the impact of the boots on the grassing in this sentence.

1. This allows the readers to better understand the situation in this poem of how the persona and in feeling.