

Figurative Language

Assonance

Assonance is the repetition of vowel sounds within a short passage of verse or prose.



Example: Hear the mellow wedding bells.
Edgar Allen Poe

Onomatopoeia

Onomatopoeia is a literary device that relies on words that imitate the sound they name. They are sound effect words.

Examples:

roar
boom,
meow,
sizzle,
buzz,
kerplop.



Metaphor

A **metaphor** is a comparison of two things without the use of "like" or "as."



Example: The internet is a superhighway of information.

Idiom

An **idiom** is an expression that cannot be understood by the individual meanings of its parts.



Example: He's carrying a torch for that girl. (He's in love.)

Simile

A **simile** is a comparison of two nouns (persons, places or things) that are unlike, with "like" or "as."



Example: An emerald is as green as grass.

Hyperbole

Hyperboles use exaggeration for effect.



Examples: His feet were as big as a barge.
OR I'm so hungry I could eat a horse.

Personification

Personification is attributing human qualities to something nonhuman.



Example: The large rock **refused** to budge.
(A person might refuse to do something.)

Alliteration

Alliteration is the repetition of consonants in a phrase or line.



Example: She sells seashells by the seashore.