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Figure of Speech

Simile

A simile is a figure of speech in which two things are directly compared. A simile is introduced by words such as like, so, as etc.

Examples -

- as dark as the night
- as cool as a cucumber
- fought like cats and dogs
- eat like a horse
- The flower is as pretty as a picture.
- He is as sober as a judge.
- The floor was as slippery as an eel.
- They looked like peas in a pod.

Metaphor

A word or phrase in which one thing is referred to as another, different thing. A metaphor is a comparison or a symbol that is used to describe imagery.

Examples -

- Her hands were Popsicles
- You are the apple of my eye.
- having two left feet Ocean's sound is music to my ear.
- Heart of gold.
- He is a night owl.
- Time is money.

Personification

In Personification, non-living things, abstract ideas or qualities are mentioned as humans or living things.

Example -

- Angry clouds surrounded the island.
- Little sorrows sit and weep
- Earth was thirsty for water.
- That chocolate cake was calling my name.
- The flowers talked to them in the garden.
- The wind howled that night.

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.

Example -

- “O, Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?”
- “Twinkle, twinkle, little star, how I wonder what you are”
- Death, where is thy sting?
- Boy’s mother loved him very much

Oxymoron

An oxymoron is a figure of speech that willingly uses two differing ideas. It is a figure of speech which combines two seemingly contradictory or incongruous words for sharp emphasis or effect.

Example -

- Life is bittersweet.
- darkness visible
- make haste slowly loving hate
- deafening silence
- They knew they could feel the joyful sadness on his arrival.
- Sweet sorrow.
- Peace force.

Hyperbole

It an exaggerated statement It is used to make something seem bigger or more important than it actually is.

Example -

- My teacher is as big as a house
- It has been ages since I have had a proper meal.
- Usain Bolt runs faster than the wind.
- I could do this forever.
- I have told you a million times not to get your shoes dirty.
- Jake’s mum always cooks enough food to feed an army.
- What have you got in this suitcase; it weighs a ton?
- I am so hungry I could eat a horse
- She’s older than this world.
- Everybody knows me.

Pun

A pun is generally used in plays where one word has two different meanings. It is used to create humour. Puns often employ the use of homophones

Example -

- A bicycle can’t stand on its own because it is two-tired.
- Is life worth living? It depends upon the liver
- He’s been to see his dentist so many times now that he knows the drill.
- I’ve forgotten where my wife said we were going, don’t worry, Alaska.
- Where do you find giant snails? On the ends of the giants' fingers.

Alliteration

It is a series of words, which commence with the same letter. Alliteration consists of the repetition of a sound or of a letter at the beginning of two or more words.

Example -

- Dirty dolphins dove across the ocean.
- By **apt Alliteration's artful**
- **G**littering through the **g**loomy
- The **f**urrow **f**ollows
- Purple pandas painted portraits.
- She sells seashells.
- Nick needed new notebooks.
- Fred fried frogs' legs on Friday.

Onomatopoeia

It is the figure of speech where the word is used to describe a sound. When we explain any action by putting the sounds into language, it is known as onomatopoeia. It is generally used in fiction or in nursery rhymes,

Example -

- I could hear the leaves rustling and the wind howling.
- The moan of doves in immemorial elms and murmur of innumerable bees.

Euphemism

we speak in agreeable and favorable terms of some person, object or event which is ordinarily considered unpleasant and disagreeable.

Example -

- Using letting you go instead of firing
- Using a little thin on top instead of getting bald
- He is telling us a fairy tale. (a lie)
- He has fallen asleep
- Using stick to the truth instead of calling someone a liar

Irony

a statement using language to mean the opposite of the literal meaning. A subtle form of humour involving words opposing to what is actually meant

Example -

- A traffic cop got a ticket for parking in a no-parking zone.
- A flat tire! This is my lucky day!
- The Titanic was said to be unsinkable but got sunk on its first trip.

Synecdoche

using a part of something to refer to the whole of something

Example

- He bought a fancy new set of wheels
- I have the Viceroy, love the man.

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