
Literary Devices

Sixth Grade Literature

Hyperbole

- exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken literally

Example:

It was so cold I saw polar bears wearing jackets!



Simile

- a comparison of two unlike things using the words “like” or “as”



Example:

She was busy as a bee getting everything ready for the party.

Imagery

- to use figurative language to represent objects, actions and ideas in such a way that it appeals to our physical senses

Example:



Glittering white, the blanket of snow covered everything in sight.

Personification

- giving human characteristics to inanimate objects

Example:

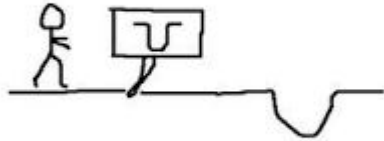
The ocean heaved a sigh as its waves rolled onto the shore.



Foreshadowing

- literary device used to tease readers about plot turns that will occur later in the story

Example:



Allusion

- When a person or author makes an indirect reference in speech, text, or song to an event or figure
- They are often made to past events or figures, but sometimes allusions are made to current famous people or events



Alliteration

- the occurrence of the same letter or sound at the beginning of adjacent or closely connected words



Dialect

- language used by the people of a specific area, class, district or any other group of people



Dialect

**People from different regions
say things differently**

**People use different words to
say the same thing**

Let's Say Hello



Howdy!



Yo!



???

Helps an author develop a character

Helps a reader visualize the characters

Internal Conflict

- a struggle occurring within a character's mind
- is often referred to as a “problem of the heart.”



External Conflict

- a struggle between two opposing forces
- can be character vs. another character
- Can be character vs. nature
- Can be character vs. supernatural



Direct Characterization

- occurs when the author specifically reveals traits about the character in a direct, straightforward manner

Example:

The patient boy and quiet girl were both well mannered and did not disobey their mother.

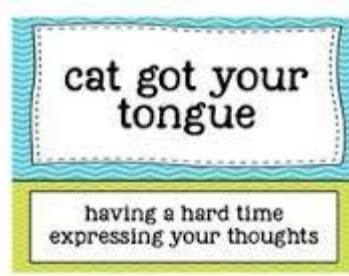
Indirect Characterization

- process by which the personality of a character is revealed through their speech, actions, or appearance

Example:

The little girl left the game with a frown on her face and slumped shoulders.

Idiom

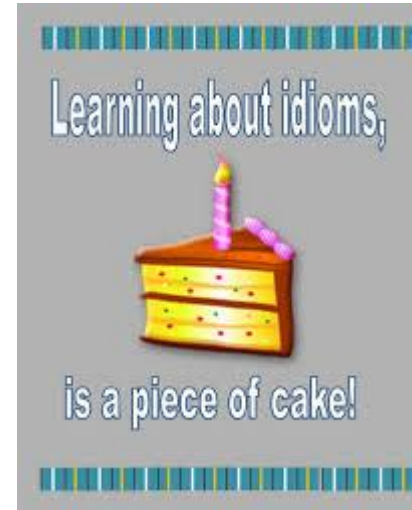


- an expression that cannot be understood from the meanings of its separate words

Examples:

“Best thing since sliced bread”

“Once in a blue moon”



Metaphor

- a comparison of two unlike things

Example:

The road was a ribbon of moonlight.



Onomatopoeia

RoOOAAAR

- a word that is formed by the sound that it makes

Examples:



Tone

- author's attitude toward a subject in a piece of writing
- tone can show a variety of emotions

"I shall be telling this with a sigh

* The sigh implies the writer is not happy.

Somewhere ages and ages hence:

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I,

I took the one less traveled by,

And that has made all the difference."

-Robert Frost

Theme

- This is the underlying message from the author
- it may be stated directly or indirectly

Examples: Kindness, honesty, strength, perseverance

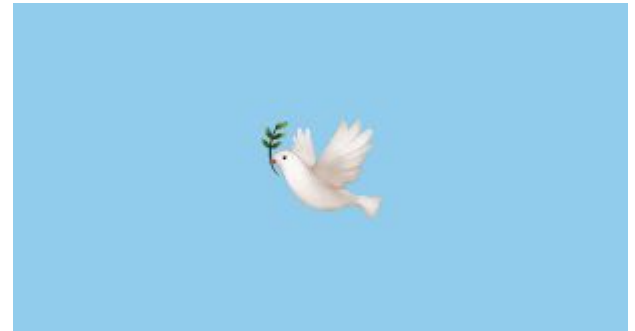


Symbolism

- an object that takes on another meaning in a piece of writing

Example: A dove is a symbol of peace.

A red rose is a symbol of love.



Repetition

- when a word is repeated throughout a piece of writing to make an idea more clear

Example:

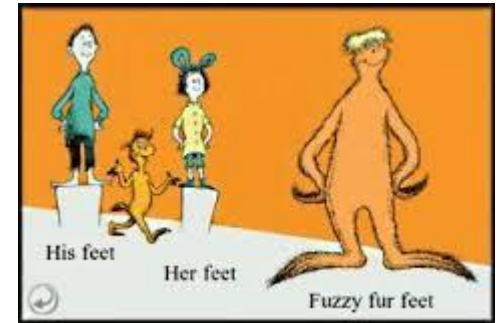
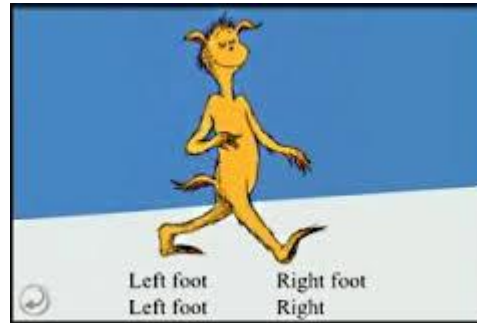
Left foot left foot

Right foot right

Feet in the day

And feet in the night.

Dr. Seuss



End Rhyme

When the words at the end of each line in a poem rhyme.

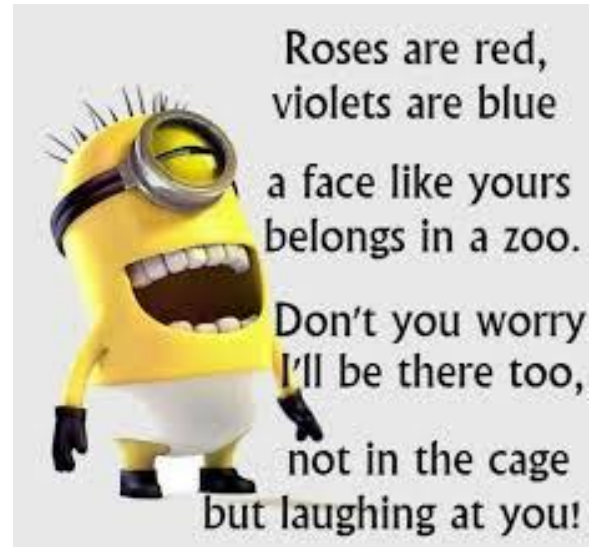
Example:

Roses are red

Violets are blue

Sugar is sweet;

And so are you.



Rhyme Scheme

- the ordered pattern of rhymes at the end of lines of poetry or verse

Example:

The people all along the sand A -> The rhyme scheme of this

All turn and look one way. B -> poem is ABAB

They turn their back on the land A

They look at the sea all day. B

-Robert Frost

Internal Rhyme

- this type of rhyme occurs when a word at the end of a verse rhymes with a word within the line

Example:

“Leave me **alone**,” said the rock to the **stone**.

“Or trouble will follow you surely...”



Stanza and Line

- a **line** is each sentence in a poem
- It does not follow sentence or punctuation rules
- a **stanza** is an arrangement of four or more lines in poetry
- stanzas are similar to paragraphs in an essay

Poetry Example

Twinkle, twinkle little star

How I wonder what you are.

Up above the world so high

Like a diamond in the sky.

Twinkle, twinkle little star

How I wonder what you are.

- > Each of the lines in the poem is referred to as a **line**.
- > The group of lines together is referred to as a **stanza**.

Irony

The use of words where the meaning is the opposite of their usual meaning or what is expected to happen.

Example: The man who invented the stop sign, William Eno, never learned how to drive.

