

Grade 9

English Home Language

Poetry Terminology Revision

Worksheet 1

Today we will focus on some of the figures of speech and sound devices

Figures of Speech

HYPERBOLE:

- Exaggerated statement. Not meant to be taken literally.
"I have a mountain of homework."
"Mountain" only refers to the large amount.

PERSONIFICATION:

- Attribute human qualities to thing or quality.
"The tree smiles as it leaves waved at the flowers."
"wave" and "smile" are both human qualities.

SIMILE:

- Comparison between two things, using like or as.
"My mother's voice sound like a car that lost the use of it brakes in the "70's".
His mothers voice is very high pitched.

METAPHOR:

- A direct comparison made between two things without using "like" or "as".
My brother is a snail in the mornings.
His/her brother is extremely slow in the morning.

Sound devices

The following are not strictly figures of speech, although they are often classified as such. It is where the sound of words is just as significant as the meaning of the words.

ALLITERATION:

Alliteration is a term that describes a literary stylistic device. Alliteration is the repetition of one or more initial sounds, usually consonants, in words within a line.
For example, "She sells sea-shells down by the sea-short"
"Carries cat clawed her couch, creating chaos."

ASSONANCE:

Assonance is the repetition of vowel sounds in nearby words. These vowel sounds come anywhere within the word. It is used to reinforce the meanings of words or to set the mood.
"And all is seared with trade, bleared,
smeaded with toil. ..."

ONOMATOPOEIA:

Forming words from sounds that resemble those associated with the object or suggestive of its qualities,
e.g. The harmonious melody of the birds.
We should focus on the peaceful sound of the birds singing.

ACTIVITY:

Directions: Read each example and write down which technique is being used. There may be more than one. Also, explain how you got your answer.

Answers: alliteration, onomatopoeia, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification

1. That boy put up a fight like a welter-weight cinnamon bear.

What technique is being used? _____

Alliteration, onomatopoeia, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification

Explain how you figured it out:

2. Arrest seemed but a rosy dream.

What technique is being used? _____

Alliteration, onomatopoeia, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification

Explain how you figured it out:

3. I went out and caught that boy and shook him until his freckles rattled.

What technique is being used? _____

Alliteration, onomatopoeia, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification

Explain how you figured it out:

4. Coyotes yelped.

What technique is being used? _____

Alliteration, onomatopoeia, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification

Explain how you figured it out:

5. The scorn of his comrades would be a worse thing to face than the muzzles of many rifles.

What technique is being used? _____

Alliteration, onomatopoeia, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification

Explain how you figured it out:

6. Months went by, and still that little cloud of forgotten cowardice hung above the camp.

What technique is being used? _____

Alliteration, onomatopoeia, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification

Explain how you figured it out:

7. There was a town down there, as flat as a flannel-cake

What technique is being used? _____

Alliteration, onomatopoeia, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification

Explain how you figured it out:

8. Retribution was creeping up on the hoof-prints of his dapper nags.

What technique is being used? _____

Alliteration, onomatopoeia, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification

Explain how you figured it out:

9. He was born in the heart of feud land.

What technique is being used? _____

Alliteration, onomatopoeia, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification

Explain how you figured it out:

10. Two of the valorous volunteers waited, concealed by beer barrels.

What technique is being used? _____

Alliteration, onomatopoeia, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification

Explain how you figured it out: