

Figures of speech

1) Simile

In 'simile', there is a comparison between two dissimilar things or objects. This comparison is made by the words 'as' or 'like'.

- "My love is like a red red rose.

(i) This is Simile because the comparison is between dissimilar objects - 'Love' and 'Rose'. one more example is:

(ii) Life is as tedious as a twice told tale.
Here 'Life' and 'Tale', two dissimilar words are compared by 'as'.

(iii) The younger brother is as good as gold.

2) Metaphor:

~~In~~ Metaphor is an implied simile.

There is a comparison between two dissimilar objects without the words 'as' or 'like'.

(i) Life is a dream unpredictable and short lived.

This is 'Metaphor'. It is an implied simile. There is a comparison between two dissimilar objects, 'Life' and 'Dream' without the words 'as' or 'like'.

Life is like a dream - The word 'like' is omitted.

(ii) The Camel is the ship of the desert.

It is a metaphor - The Camel is like the ship of the desert. It is an implied simile because the comparison is between camel and ship without 'like' or 'as'.

2.
(iii) He is the pillar of the state.
It is a metaphor, an implied simile.
Two dissimilar things 'He' and 'Pillar
of State' are compared without
the word 'as' or 'like' -
say... He is (like) the Pillar.

(3) Personification

(living)
In 'Personification' animate objects
are given the form of inanimate and
Vice Versa.

(i) Death lays his icy hands on Kings.

This figure of speech is Personification
because 'Death' inanimate or non-living
thing is made animate. In fact,
Death cannot lay or put his/its hand
on Kings. Death has been made a
living thing.

(ii) Opportunity knocks at the door
but once.

It is Personification. opportunity
is an inanimate thing or non-living,
it can't knock at the door but
it has been made living or animate.

(iii) Laughter holding both her sides.

It is Personification as 'laughter'
which is a non-living thing or
inanimate thing has been made
living or animate. Showing that
it holds both her sides for good and
bad.

3- Apostrophe अतिशयोक्ति

In this figure of speech, there is a direct address (उद्देश्य) to an object or body. It usually begins with the words "Oh!" or "Hail!" There is an implied negation.

(i) Oh! Death! Where is thy sting!

It is an Apostrophe. There is a direct address to Death beginning with "Oh!". There is an implied negation.

(ii) Oh! friend! I know not which way I must look for comfort!

It is an apostrophe. There is a direct address to friend with the word 'Oh!' There is an implied negation.

(iii) Oh! Grave! Where is thy Victory!

(iv) Oh! Solitude! Where are the charms that Sages have seen in thy face!

(v) Oh! Liberty! What crimes have been committed in thy name!

(vi) Roll on! Thou deep and dark blue Ocean roll on!

It is an apostrophe. There is a direct address to deep and dark Ocean.

(5) Antithesis (अतिशयोक्ति)

Antithesis is a figure of speech in which there is an opposite meaning between two words or sentences. Antithesis is used to heighten the meaning of a sentence or word.

- (i) United We stand, divided We fall.
This is antithesis. The words 'United' and 'divided' and 'stand' and 'fall' are opposite but the sentence gets great force in meaning.
- (ii) God made the country and man made the town.
This is an antithesis. 'God' and 'man' or 'country' and 'town' are opposite in meaning.
- (iii) Speech is silver and silence is golden.
Antithesis. Speech and silence or silver and golden are opposite.
- (iv) Man proposes, God disposes.
Antithesis. 'Man' and 'God' or 'proposes' and 'disposes' are opposite.
- (v) Give every man thine ear but few thy voice.
Antithesis. 'Every man' and 'few' or 'ear' and 'voice' are opposite.
- (vi) Many were summoned but few were chosen.
Antithesis. 'Many' and 'few' or 'summoned' and 'chosen' are opposite.

(6) Hyperbole or Exaggeration (अतिशयोक्ति)
It is a figure of speech in which there is an exaggeration or something is shown of great dimension. हि, ३६ अलाहि, बुत.

O! Hamlet! thou hast cleft my heart
in twain!

This is a Hyperbole or exaggeration.
It is impossible to break one's
heart in two parts.

This shows great calamity 3:6

This figure of speech is also
Apostrophe because Hamlet is
directly addressed with the words
Oh! Hamlet!

ii) Here is the smell of blood still.
All the perfumes of Arabia will not
sweeten this little hand.

This is highest example of Hyperbole.
It is an exaggerated statement.

When King Duncan was murdered
by Macbeth, Lady Macbeth cleaned
the blood spots but she lost her
balance of mind. She exclaimed that
"there is still the smell of blood
and all the perfumes from Arabia
will not sweeten this (her) little hands."

ii) If the river were dry, I am able
to fill the river with my tears.

This is Hyperbole. It is an
exaggerated statement because
no one can fill the dry river
with one's tears (2:2)

It was a Himalayan mistake.

It is Hyperbole. A mistake cannot
be called Himalayan or too big
like the Himalayas.

(7) Pun (एक) 213 2168 or 6 212 2121
पुन (एक) 213 2168 or 6 212 2121

In this figure of speech, there is play on words (2168 or 2121) The same word has two meanings and it creates a sense of wonder or humour.

(i) An ^{होता} ambassador is a man who lies abroad for the good of his country. This figure of speech is PUN. There is play on word "lies" because 'lies' means lives or stays and also tells lies for the good of his country.

(ii) Is life worth living? It depends upon the liver. This figure of speech is PUN. There is a play on word "liver". Liver means part of human body and it also means one who lives.

(iii) They went and told the sexton and the sexton tolled the bell. This figure of speech is PUN. There is play on the word 'told' and 'tolled'. Told means asked or ordered and tolled means rang the bell.

(7) Oxymoron (अभिप्राय) 2121 2121 2121
पुन (एक) 213 2168 or 6 212 2121

'Oxymoron' is a type of anti-thesis by expressing or joining two opposite words

oxymoron) -7-

James I was the wisest fool in the whole christendom. (बुद्धि और मूर्खता)

This is oxymoron. The antithesis or opposite meaning is shown by two words of opposite meaning - wisest and fool. wisest can't be a fool. but it gives strength to the sentence.

(ii) So innocent arch (शुद्ध और चतुर) so cunningly simple.

It is oxymoron. The antithesis is shown by the opposite words 'innocent' and 'cunning'. (शुद्ध और चतुर)

(iii) She accepted it as the kind cruelty

It is oxymoron. The antithesis is shown by the words 'kind' and 'cruelty' which have opposite meanings.

8) Onomatopoeia (शब्दों द्वारा ध्वनि का प्रदर्शन)।
क्रककक्रक कौल कौल कौल कौल कौल कौल कौल कौल कौल कौल
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A cracked road howled like noises in a sound.

This is onomatopoeia. The words 'cracked' and 'howled' (क्रकक कौल) एका प्रकार से ध्वनि को व्यक्त करते हैं।
express or show the sound and sense.

Such words are
 quack (कुकुर की आवाज़) Whack (घड़ना की आवाज़)
 buzz (मच्छर की आवाज़) hiss (धुंलकी की आवाज़)
 Click - (कड़काने की आवाज़) या (कड़काने की आवाज़)
 These words convey the sense.

(9) Alliteration (अनुप्रास)

Alliteration is a figure of speech in which 'letters' or 'syllables' of the same sound are repeated in a line. In this way, the language becomes musical.

(i) How high his honour holds
 his haughty (उँची) head.
 उँची उँची अँवर अँज उँची उँची उँची
 उँची उँची

This figure of speech is alliteration. The letters "h" are repeated for every word and it becomes musical.

(ii) The fair breeze blew
 The white foam flew
 The furrow followed free.

This is alliteration. The letters 'f' in fair, foam, flew, furrow and flew, and 'b' in breeze and blew are repeated. The lines become musical.

(iii) The river Mosy moved with
 meandering motion.
 Alliteration. The letter 'm' is repeated and shows how the river moved in a meandering (zigzag) motion. (अँसल उँसल अँरे उँसल)
 It is musical.

1. The pen is mightier than the sword
2. From cradle to the grave. (i.e. from 'infancy' to 'death')
3. The press must act responsibly.
4. Have you ever read Milton? (i.e. Milton's works)
5. The whole city went out to see the victorious general.

Explanation: The above given sentence is an example of *Metonymy*. In this statement, the words 'pen' and 'sword', respectively, stand for writers and warriors.

7 18. Synecdoche (संयुक्त शब्द से अर्थ व्यक्त होना)

- Synecdoche (in Greek origin - 'accepted together') is a figure of speech that uses either the part to represent the whole or the whole to stand for the part. Consider the following examples:

1. There were some new faces at the meeting.
2. The West Indies beat England at cricket.
3. Lord! give us our daily bread. (i.e. food)
4. He has many mouths to feed.
5. Not even the best brains of Europe could solve the problem.

Explanation: The above given sentence is an example of *Synecdoche*. In the given statement, the phrase 'new faces' stands for 'new people'.