

Stylistic device	Description	Example(s)
alliteration	repetition of a sound at the beginning of neighbouring words	f un f act, w eak and w eary, l ive l ove l augh
allusion	direct or indirect reference to sth. that the reader/listener knows	This is my Garden of Eden .
enumeration	listing of words, phrases, or ideas	My hair is long, soft, and wavy
hyperbole	strong exaggeration used for serious or comedic effect	I have told you 1000 times already!
irony	expression of meaning by using language that typically means the opposite	Well done! Now you broke it.
simile	comparison using the words <i>as</i> or <i>like</i>	The children fight like cats and dogs
metaphor	direct comparison of two different things without using the words <i>as</i> or <i>like</i>	He's a couch potato
onomatopoeia	use of a word that imitates the sound it refers to	meow, cuckoo, sizzle
oxymoron	apparently contradictory terms appearing together	old news, organized chaos
parallelism	repetition of similar or identical words, phrases, sentence structure, etc. in the same or neighbouring sentences	Easy come, easy go
anaphora	form of parallelism which repeats the same word(s) at the beginning of neighbouring sentences	Come in , I say. Come in and eat with us.
personification	technique of representing animals or objects as if they were (like) human beings	The city never sleeps .
repetition	use of a word or phrase more than once in a sentence or text to emphasize something	We marched and marched .
rhetorical question	a question to which the answer seems obvious and is therefore not necessary	Do birds fly?
synecdoche	a part representing the whole or vice versa	I need a new set of wheels (= a car)
understatement	statement in which the true magnitude of an idea or event is presented as less valuable or important than it actually is	Global warming is a bit of a problem.
wordplay/pun	use of a word which may be understood in multiple different ways	The bicycle can't stand on its own because it's two-tired.