

Figurative Language

When words mean something other than their literal meaning

Personification

Giving an animal or object, characteristics only a human can have.

The waves spat at the shore.

What effect does it have?

Can bring inanimate things to life, so that their nature and actions are understood in a better way.



Simile

Comparing two things directly using 'like' or 'as'

He is as fast as a cheetah

What effect does it have?

Creates an image for the reader to better understand what is being described.

Onomatopoeia

Words whose sounds suggest their meaning.

Boom, whoosh, bang!

What effect does it have?

Help the reader to hear the sounds of the words they reflect. Can also add excitement and action.

Metaphor

Used to make a comparison of two things that aren't alike but do have something in common. It states that something is something else.

The city is a jungle

What effect does it have?

Creates vivid imagery for a reader which helps them to better understand and visualise what is being described.



Hyperbole

Exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken literally

I'm so hungry, I could eat a horse.

What effect does it have?

Used to show strong feelings, stress a point and add humour.

Idiom

A phrase or expression whose meaning cannot be understood literally.

*You hit the nail on the head!
(You got it exactly right)*

What effect does it have?

Can create humour and can help the reader to see something differently.

Alliteration

When words that start with the same sound (not just the same letter) are used repeatedly in a phrase or sentence.

She sells seashells on the sea shore

What effect does it have?

Alliterative sounds create rhythm and mood.



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