

Figurative Language

Personification

Personification is when a non-living or a non-human thing is given living characteristics.

Why do writers use personification?



- Personification helps the writer to bring a passage alive by introducing a human characteristic with which the reader can identify.
- To make the reader more interested in the topic and raise the reader's curiosity.
- It makes reading about the topic worthwhile.

Alliteration

The repetition of consonant sounds, usually at the start of the words.

Why do writers use alliteration?



- Helps draw our attention to a line in a poem or passage.
- To create a particular image.
- To slow down our reading or speed up the words in order to create an atmosphere.
- Advertisers use it to make things easy to remember.

Onomatopoeia

When the sound of the word imitates or suggests the meaning or noise of the action described.

Why do writers use onomatopoeia?



- To help the reader experience what is happening by recalling the sound that something makes and thereby improving the reader's ability to understand what is being described.

Simile

A phrase that compares two things, using 'like' or 'as'. A simile works by suggesting the two things have characteristics that are similar.

Why do writers use similes?



- Similes are used by writers to help the reader form a mental image of the comparison, which increases understanding of what the writer is trying to communicate.
- Similes add colour and vitality to writing.

Metaphor

A metaphor is a comparison between two things as if they were the same.

Why do writers use metaphors?



- Writers use metaphors to involve their readers more, by making the reader feel, as opposed to just helping them understand.
- Metaphors focus the reader's attention on a specific detail.
- A Metaphor helps to link your point to a familiar topic that your reader has knowledge of and can connect to.