

LITERARY DEVICES

- ▣ A narrative technique (also known, more narrowly for literary fictional narratives, as a literary technique, literary device, or fictional device) is any of several specific methods the creator of a narrative uses to convey what they want¹—in other words, a strategy used in the making of a narrative to relay information to the audience and, particularly, to "develop" the narrative, usually in order to make it more complete, complicated, or interesting. Literary techniques are distinguished from literary elements, which exist inherently in works of writing.

EPITHET

- ▣ Definition:
- ▣ An epithet is a literary device that is used as a descriptive device. It is usually used to add to a person or place's regular name and attribute some special quality to the same. Epithets are remarkable in that they become a part of common parlance over time. These descriptive words and phrases can be used to enhance the persona of real and fictitious places, objects, persons and divinities.
- ▣ Example:
- ▣ "Alexander the Great" is the epithet commonly used to refer to Alexander III.

HYPERBOLE

- ▣ Definition:
- ▣ A hyperbole is a literary device wherein the author uses specific words and phrases that exaggerate and overemphasize the basic crux of the statement in order to produce a grander, more noticeable effect. The purpose of hyperbole is to create a larger-than-life effect and overly stress a specific point. Such sentences usually convey an action or sentiment that is generally not practically/realistically possible or plausible but helps emphasize an emotion.
- ▣ Example:
- ▣ “I am so tired I cannot walk another inch” or “I’m so sleepy I might fall asleep standing here”.

METAPHOR

- Definition:
- Metaphors are one of the most extensively used literary devices. A metaphor refers to a meaning or identity ascribed to one subject by way of another. In a metaphor, one subject is implied to be another so as to draw a comparison between their similarities and shared traits.
- Example:
- “Henry was a lion on the battlefield”. This sentence suggests that Henry fought so valiantly and bravely that he embodied all the personality traits we attribute to the ferocious animal.
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Simile

- ▣ Definition:
- ▣ **Similes are one of the most commonly used literary devices; referring to the practice of drawing parallels or comparisons between two unrelated and dissimilar things, people, beings, places and concepts. Similes are marked by the use of the words 'as' or 'such as' or 'like'.**
- ▣ Example:
- ▣ **He is like a mouse in front of the teacher.**

ALLITERATION

- ▣ Example:
- ▣ The Wicked Witch of the West went her own way. (The 'W' sound is highlighted and repeated throughout the sentence.)
- ▣ Alliteration is a literary device where words are used in quick succession and begin with letters belonging to the same sound group. Whether it is the consonant sound or a specific vowel group, the alliteration involves creating a repetition of similar sounds in the sentence.