

## Literary Devices Glossary

In your own words, define your chosen term(s) and provide an example. *Remember, copying and pasting is unethical and doesn't result in true learning – please make sure you understand the words you are using.*

Term	Definition & Example
Alliteration	Alliteration is the repetition of the same sound at the beginning of two or more consecutive words
Allusion	Allusion is a figure of speech that refers to a well-known person, place, event, or literary work, in order to make a comparison or suggest an idea
Analogy	An analogy is a comparison between two things to explain or clarify a concept or idea.
Anaphora	Anaphora is a rhetorical device in which a word or phrase is repeated at the beginning of successive clauses or sentences for emphasis.
Antithesis	Antithesis is a rhetorical device in which two opposite ideas are juxtaposed (placed side by side) to create a contrasting effect.
Cacophony	Literary cacophony refers to a harsh mixture of sounds in language. It is a stylistic device used in literature to create a harsh or unpleasant effect
Caricature	In literature, a caricature is an exaggerated or distorted representation of a character, often for comedic or satirical purposes.

Cliché	A cliché is a phrase or expression that has become overused and loses its original meaning or effect through repetition.
Diction	Diction involves the use of words in writing to convey a specific message and includes word choice, syntax, tone, and style.
Ethos	Ethos is a rhetorical style used to establish authority and trustworthiness of the speaker
Euphemism	A euphemism is a mild or indirect word or phrase used in place of a word or expression considered to be harsh, rude, or offensive.
Euphony	Euphony is a pleasing combination of sounds in language. It refers to the use of words, phrases, and sentences that are harmonious to the ear.
Hyperbole	Hyperbole is a figure of speech that involves an intentional exaggeration or overstatement for emphasis or effect.
Imagery	Imagery refers to the use of vivid, descriptive language to create a mental picture or sensory experience for the reader. Words that evoke the 5 senses.
Verbal Irony	Verbal irony (sarcasm) is a figure of speech in which the words used by a speaker or writer convey a meaning that is opposite or different from their literal or intended meaning.
Dramatic Irony	Dramatic irony is a type of irony that occurs when the audience knows something that the characters in a play, film, or story do not.

Situational Irony	Situational irony is a type of irony that occurs when there is a discrepancy between what is expected to happen and what actually happens.
Logos	Logos refers to the use of reasoning and logic to persuade an audience.
Metaphor	A metaphor is a direct comparison between two unlike things. Ex: His love is a red rose.
Mood	Mood refers to the emotional atmosphere or feeling created by a piece of writing. It is the feeling that the reader experiences while reading.
Onomatopoeia	Onomatopoeia is a figure of speech in which words imitate the sounds they describe.Ex: Boom! Crack!
Oxymoron	An oxymoron is a figure of speech that combines two seemingly contradictory or opposing terms to create a new expression.  Ex: Jumbo shrimp
Paradox	A paradox is a statement or situation that appears to be self-contradictory or absurd, but on closer inspection, reveals a deeper truth or meaning.  Logical Paradox: 1. The following statement is true. 2. The previous statement is false.
Parallelism	Parallelism is the repetition of similar grammatical structures or syntax within a sentence, paragraph,

	or passage.
Pathos	Pathos refers to an emotional appeal that evokes feelings of sympathy, compassion, or sorrow in the reader.
Personification	Personification is when human qualities, emotions, or characteristics are attributed to non-human entities, such as animals, objects, or natural phenomena.
Pun	A pun is a form of word play that exploits multiple meanings of a term, or of similar-sounding words, for an intended humorous or rhetorical effect.
Rhetorical Question	A rhetorical question is a question that doesn't require a response. It is used to make a point or to emphasize a particular idea.
Sentence Structure	Sentence structure refers to the way words are arranged to form a complete and meaningful sentence.
Simile	A simile is an indirect comparison between two unlike things using "like" or "as."
Symbolism	Symbolism is a literary device that involves using objects, characters, or places to represent ideas or concepts in a literary work beyond their literal meanings.
Synecdoche	Synecdoche is a figure of speech in which a part of something is used to represent the whole, or the whole is used to represent a part. For example, using the word "wheels" to represent a car.

Tone	Tone refers to the attitude or approach that an author takes towards a subject, character, or audience in the writing.
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