

FIGURE OF SPEECH

PART – II ENGLISH

Mr. I.VAZEER MOHAMED
Assistant Professor of English
Jamal Mohamed College(Autonomous)
Tiruchirappalli-620020

FIGURE OF SPEECH

Alliteration – Allusion – Simile – Metaphor – Personification –
Oxymoron – Onomatopoeia – Anaphora – Ellipsis – Rhyme
scheme – Rhyming words – Repetition – Apostrophe

DEFINITION:

A Figure Of Speech is a word or phrase that has a meaning something different than its literal meaning

1. ALLITERATION:

- ▶ Repetition of consonants or sounds at the beginning of two or more words in a line of poetry
- ▶ Ex: I **s**pawn and **s**plash in distant **s**pills

2. ALLUSION:

- ▶ A brief and indirect reference to a place, person or idea of historical culture, literary or political significance
- ▶ Ex: 1. He is a **Romeo** to every girl. Here Romeo refers William Shakespeare's famous character name in a play
- 2. "**Dust thou art, to dust returnest**" alludes to Genesis 3:19

3.SIMILE:

- ▶ Two things are compared that are not really same, but to make a point about each other
- ▶ Ex: 1. I **weep like a child** for the past
2. He is **as strong as ox**

4. METAPHOR:

- ▶ An implicit, implied or hidden comparison between two things that are unrelated but which share some common characteristics
- ▶ Ex: 1.The calm **lake was a mirror**
2. The **snow is a white** blanket

5. PERSONIFICATION:

- ▶ Comparing Non-living things to living things
- ▶ Ex: 1. **The stars** in the sky **blinked**

(Non - living thing(The stars) compared to living thing behaviour (blinked))

2. The tulips **nodded their head** in the breeze

6. Oxymoron:

- ▶ Two words together seem to contradict each other
- ▶ Ex: 1. **Original copy**
- 2. **Clearly confused**

7. ONOMATOPOEIA:

- ▶ Word sounds like what it means
- ▶ Ex: 1. The bees **buzzed**
2. The rain went **drip, drop, drip** on the roof

8. RHYME SCHEME:

- The pattern of end rhymes in a poem. A separate letter of alphabet is used to mark off the rhyme scheme; ABBA, ABCCB

Ex: Upon a nice mid-spring **day**, **A**
Let's take a look at Nature's **way**, **A**
Breathe the scent of nice fresh **air**, **B**
Feel the breeze within your **hair**. **B**

Rhyme Scheme is – **AABB**

9. ANAPHORA:

- Repetition of the same word or group of words at the beginning of successive clauses
- ▶ Ex: 1. I came, I saw, I conquered
2. I am getting better and better

10. ELLIPSIS:

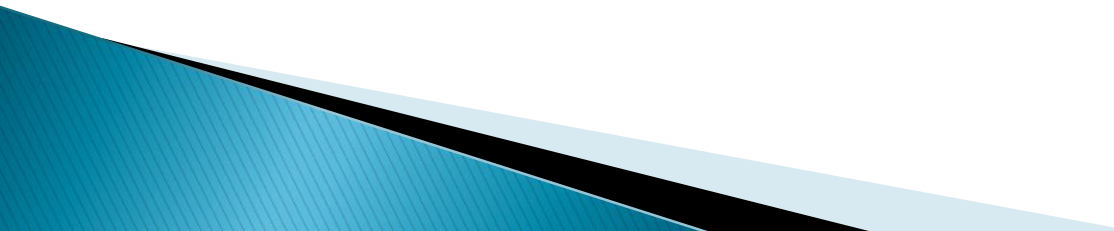
- Omission of a word or a series of words
- ▶ Ex: Nancy can do something about problem but I don't know what (she can do)

Here, “She can do” is a omitted word.

11. RHYMING WORDS:

- ▶ Rhyming words are two or more words that don't start with same sound, but they end with same sound
- ▶ Ex: 1. Cat – Sat – Bat
2. Ball – Fall – Tall

12. REPETITION:

- ▶ Repeating words, lines and phrases over again to stress the importance of idea
 - ▶ Ex: Miles to go before I sleep
Miles to go before I sleep
- 

13. APOSTROPHE:

- ▶ Addressing someone, absent, dead or non-human as if that person or thing were present
- ▶ Ex: 1. **Oh nature**, thou art my goddess
 - 2. **Little Lamb**, who made thee?