



WELCOME
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FIGURES OF SPEECH

IRONY

This figure is the use of words with humorous or satirical intention, as a result of which, the meaning is the exact opposite of what is actually said. It represents opposite of what is meant.

□ For Example –

- A. I don't believe it ever entered his wife head.
- B. I shall lose no time in reading your book.
- C. He was the cleverest general that ever lost a battle.
- D. No doubt but ye are the people and wisdom shall die with you.

2. LITOTES

In litotes, an affirmative is conveyed by negation of opposite. Litotes is used to suggest a strong expression by means of a weaker.

□ For example –

- A. He is not a bad sort. (good)
- B. ----- an that strife
- C. Was not inglorious, through the event was dire. (glorious)
- D. I am a citizen of a no – mean city. (city)
- E. The man is no fool. (wise)
- F. I am not a little surprised. (much)
- G. He is no dullard. (clever)
- H. The first flight across the Pacific was no less an achievement. (more)
- I. Sarojini Naidu is no mean an orator. (extraordinary)
- J. Maugham is not an ordinary writer. (extraordinary)
- K. Noble is a no mean prize. (extraordinary)

3. CLIMAX

A climax is a figure in which the sense rises by successive steps to what is more and more important.

□ For Example –


- A. I came, I saw, I conquered.**
- B. I laugh, I run, I leap, I sing, I dance for joy.**
- C. It is useless to continue this struggle, not only useless but dangerous, not only dangerous but criminal.**
- D. As Caesar loved me, I weep for him, as he was fortunate, I rejoice at it, as he was valiant, I honour him, as he was ambitious, I slew him.**
- E. Simple, erect, severe, austere, sublime.**
- F. What a piece of work is man! How noble in reason, how infinite in faculties!**
- G. In action, how like an angel! In apprehension, how like a god!**

4. HYPERBOLE

In it, the exaggeration of statement is used. Things are represented greater or less than they are. It is an over statement for emphasis.

□ For example-

- A. Belinda smiled, and all the world was gay.
- B. Not all the perfumes of Arabia will sweeten my little hand.
- C. Blind with thine hair, the eyes of the day.
- D. As many farewells as there be stars in heaven.
- E. I beg a thousand pardons.
- F. I would rather die a hundred deaths!
- G. She wept oceans of tears.
- H. When she smiled all the world was gay.

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- I. Numbering sands drinking oceans dry.**
 - J. Not all the water in the rough, rude sea can wash the palm from an anointed king.**
 - K. I loved Ophelia forty thousand brothers could not with their quantity of love make up the sum!**
 - L. Why, man, if the river were dry, I am able to fill it with tears.**
 - M. O! Hamlet! Thou hast left my heart in twain**

5. METONYMY

Metonymy is a figure in which, one word is used with the intention that it will suggest another. In Metonymy, the object is indicated by naming something accompanying it so that a concrete object is made to stand for the abstract idea.

□ For Example -

◆ THE SYMBOL FOR THE THING

- A. She was dressed in cotton. (Cotton clothes)
- B. You must respect the age. (aged people)
- C. You must address the chair. (chair person)
- D. He succeeded to the throne. (Kingship)
- E. Scepter and crown must tumble down. (Kings and emperors)
- F. From the cradle to the grave. (childhood to death)
- G. He is too fond of red tape. (bureaucracy)
- H. He was elected to the House. (parliament)

❖ THE INSTRUMENT FOR THE AGENT

- A. The pen is mightier than the sword. (writer, soldier)
- B. The crown will not yield to the maître. (king, priest)
- C. Give everyone thy ear, but few thy tongue. (hear, speak)
- D. A smooth tongue wins favour. (speaker)
- E. They carried fire and sword into the enemy's country. (anger)

❖ THE CONTAINER FOR THE THING CONTAINED.

- A. The House rose at midnight. (members)
- B. The kettle boiled merrily. (water)
- C. The House was uproarious. (members)
- D. The whole city was out. (citizens)
- E. He drank the cup. (contents of the cup)

❖ THE EFFECT FOR A CAUSE

- A. The bright death quivered at his heart. (knife)
- B. ° O for a beaker of the warm south! (the wine of South)

❖ AUTHOR FOR HIS WORKS

- A. He is reading Milton. (works of Milton)
- B. I like Kalidasa. (works of Kalidasa)
- C. Graham Greene is my favourite. (books of Graham Greene)

6. ANTICLIMAX

It is the opposite of climax a sudden descent from higher to lower.

□ For example –

- A. Here thou great Anna! Whom three realms obey! Dost sometimes enounce! Take and sometimes tea!
- B. And thou Dalhousie, the great god of war, Lieutenant Colonel to the Earl of Mar.
- C. I die, I faint, I fall.
- D. On the same day he lost his family, his fortune and his suit of clothes.
- E. At one fell swoop, he lost his wife, his children, his house and his dog.
- F. Who in the course of one revolving moon, was a lawyer, a statesman, fiddler and buffoon.

7.SYNECDOCHE

◦ Synecdoche is a figure of speech by which a part is put for the whole, the whole for a part.

The distinction between metonymy and synecdoche is only this. In synecdoche, one name is put in the place of another; whose meaning is nearly similar; while in metonymy one name is used for another and its meaning is wholly unknown to itself. There are various forms of synecdoche:

□ For example –

◆ THE PART FOR THE WHOLE

- A. The young woman of twenty springs. (year)
- B. A fleet of fifty sail. (ships)
- C. All hands at work. (men)
- D. He has to feed many mouths. (persons)
- E. Give us our daily bread. (food)
- F. Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown. (the persons)

❖AN INDIVIDUAL FOR A CLASS

- A. A Daniel come to judge. (judge)
- B. He is the Solomon of his tribe. (wisest man)
- C. He is the Kalidas of Gujarat. (a great poet)
- D. He is no Demosthenes. (orator)

❖ABSTRACT FOR CONCRETE

- A. All the rank and fashion were out on the road. (people of rank and fashion)
- B. Let no ambition mock their toil. (ambitious people)
- C. Her ladyship is out of station (lady).

❖CONCRETE FOR ABSTRACT

- A. He is a mixture of the lion and the tiger. (brave)
- B. His breast is full of Midas. (greediness)
- C. He is having all the qualities of Krishna. (craftiness)

❖ MATERIAL FOR THE THING MADE AS:

- A. She was adorned in gold. (gold ornaments)
- B. She always prefers silk to wear. (silk clothes)
- C. He is worthy of his steel. (weapon)

8. Assonance

Assonance is called vocalic rhyme. It consist of the repetition of similar vowel sounds, usually does together to achieve a particular effect of euphony.

For example-

- A. The lotos blooms belove the barren peak.**
- B. The lotos be tows by every winding creek.**
- C. It seemed that out of battle I escaped.**

9. Euphony

◦ **Euphony means sweetness of sound. It denotes pleasing mellifluous sound usually produced by long vowels rather than consonant though liquid consonant can be euphonious.**

For Example-

- A. As man upon a trances summer night.**
- B. Those green, robed, senator of mighty woods.**
- C. Tall okas branch star by the earnest star.**
- D. Dream and so dream all night without a stair.**

10. Transferred epithet

◦ In this figure an epithet is transferred from a word. It is closely connected with it. A *transferred epithet* is a figure of speech in which an epithet (or adjective) grammatically qualifies a noun other than the person or thing it is actually describing.

For Example –

1. He slept a sleepless night.
2. It was a confused reply.
3. The plowman plods a long and weary way.
4. She gave him a knowing smile.

II. Oxymoron

This is a Figure of speech in which a combination of two contradictory words are used for creating an effect.

□ For Example-

- A. Romeo is an honorable villain.**
- B. He is a busy idler.**



THANK YOU