

Figurative Language Terms:

Allusion: An indirect reference to a well-known person, character, place, event, concept, or literary work. An allusion is different from a quotation because it does not give the source of the reference; the reader is expected to know it.

Example: "He was a real Romeo with the ladies."

Analogy: A comparison that shows similarities between two things that are otherwise dissimilar. A writer may use an analogy to explain something unfamiliar by comparing it to something familiar. (expressed in metaphors or similes)

Example: "I feel like a fish out of water." "King Croady had a velvet voice."

Anecdote: Story- form that happens when the audience or reader thinks important information that the characters do not.

Extended Metaphor: A metaphor that compares two unlike things in various ways throughout a paragraph, a stanza, or an entire story.

Flashback: An interruption in a narrative that tells about something that happened before that point in the narrative or before the narrative began. A flashback gives readers information that helps to explain the main events of the narrative.

Foreshadowing: The author's use of clues to prepare readers for events that will happen later in a story.

Hyperbole: A figure of speech that uses exaggeration to express strong emotion, make a point, or create humor.

Example: "You've asked me a million times."

Idiom: An expression that means something different from the literal meaning of the words that make it up.

Example: "kick as a dog"; "It's raining cats and dogs." "Jump the gun"

Imagery: Descriptive language that appeals to one or more of the five senses: sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell.

Example: "The hot like the flowers were waving like a field."

Irony: A contrast between the way things seem and the way they really are, or between what is expected and what actually happens.

Metaphor: A figure of speech that compares or equates two seemingly unlike things. (Does not use like or as)

Example: "He is the apple of my eye." "Smiles like a" "Innocence of emotion"

Parallelism: The use of a series of words, phrases, or sentences that have similar grammatical structure. Parallelism shows the relationship helps emphasize emotions.