

PARISHRAM



2026

Literary Devices

ENGLISH

LECTURE-1

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Topics *to be covered*

Literary Devices





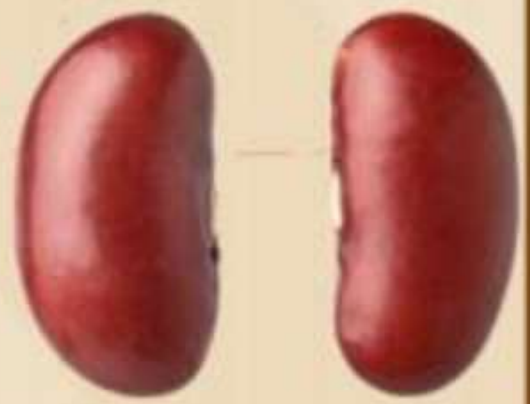
GAME TIME

Instruction:
**Identify the parts of the body that
 the given food items resemble!**

1.



2.



3.



	1 b						
	r		2 l				3 h
	a		u		4 e		e
5 k	i	d	n	e	y		a
	n		g		6 e	a	r
			s				t

1.



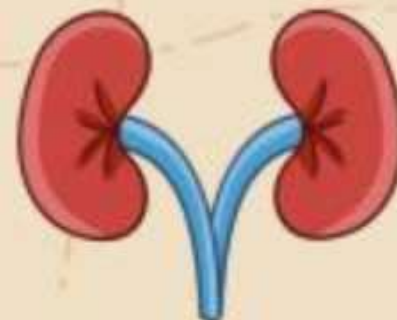
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2.



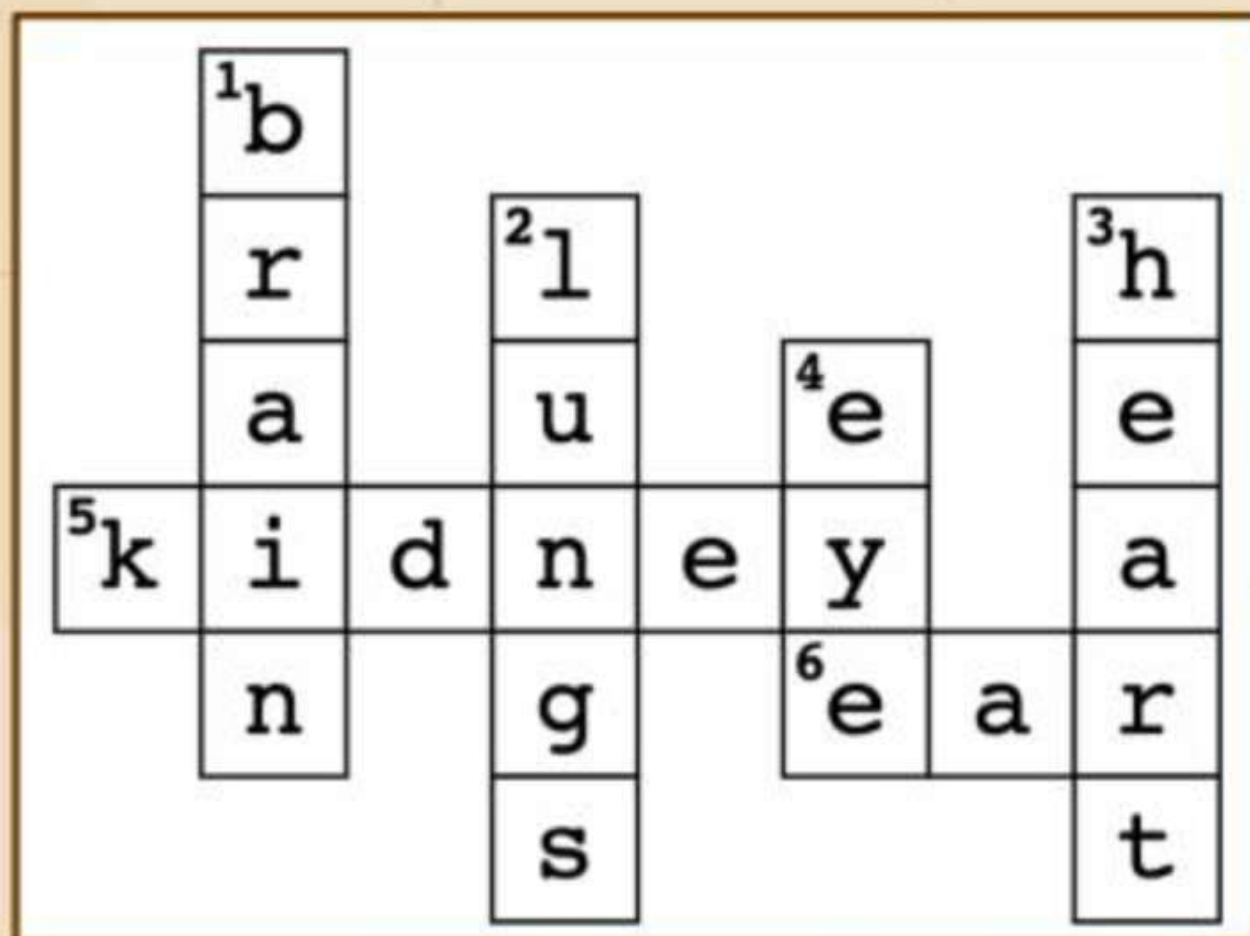
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3.



6.



POETIC DEVICES



- 1 Simile
- 2 Metaphor
- 3 Personification
- 4 Assonance
- 5 Consonance
- 6 Alliteration
- 7 Hyperbole

- 8 Imagery
- 9 Repetition
- 10 Anaphora
- 11 Onomatopoeia
- 12 Irony
- 13 Oxymoron
- 14 Antithesis

- 15 Allusion
- 16 Symbolism
- 17 Paradox
- 18 Synecdoche
- 19 Poetic License
- 20 Transferred Epithet

Tools of Comparison

Simile

as, like

eg. John runs as fast as a Cheetah.

John runs like a Cheetah.

Metaphor

State one thing to be other

eg. John is the Cheetah of our class.

Topic : MCQs

#Q. Which of the following is an example of metaphor?

- A** The glasses smiled at me
 - B** Cute cats chase toys
 - C** Snow is like the sun
 - D** My life is a dream
- 



Topic : MCQs

#Q. Which of the following is an example of simile?

- A** Hiss, slurp, hush, scream-MOM!
- B** Hopping hens' shop for shoes
- C** My hand is as cold as snow
- D** The Shirt said, "Wear Me!"



Personification

Personification is a literary device in which the poet associates human attributes/qualities with some abstract idea or an inanimate object or a natural phenomenon.

Example:

- ✓ *"the wind whispered through the trees"*

Here, the wind is personified as capable of whispering, which is a human action.



Alliteration

Alliteration is the occurrence of the same sound at the beginning of adjacent or closely connected words. It creates a musical effect and enhances the pleasure of reading a literary work.

Examples:

- *In the phrase "Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers," the repetition of the "p" sound creates a pleasing and memorable rhythm.*
- *And no one buys a ball back.*

Here the poet has used 'b' sound repeatedly which makes the expression musical.



Topic : MCQs

#Q. Which of the following is an example of alliteration?

A My hair is a vast forest

B I sat by the river. I lived by the sea. I died by the lake.

C Pants are like legs

D Dogs dodge digging dandelions

#Q. **From the given options, select the figure of speech (Poetic Device) used in the expression-**

"The angry clouds marched across the sky."

- A** Simile
- B** Metaphor
- C** Personification
- D** Onomatopoeia



Hyperbole

This is something most of you do on a daily basis: exaggerate.

Hyperbole is an exaggerated statement or claim that is not meant to be taken literally. It's a rhetorical device often used for emphasis, humor, or dramatic effect in both literature and everyday language. Hyperbole stretches the truth to such an extent that it becomes obvious that it's not meant to be interpreted literally.

Examples:

- ✓ I am so hungry that I could eat a horse.
- I so tired that I could pass out right now.
- My head aches so badly that its going to explode.

Imagery ①

Imagery refers to the use of descriptive language that appeals to one or more of the five senses, creating mental pictures or sensory experiences for the reader.

Examples:

- *The sky was painted with streaks of pink and orange as the sun dipped below the horizon.*
- "The old farmhouse stood weather-beaten and worn, surrounded by fields of golden wheat swaying in the breeze."



Repetition

Repetition is using a word, phrase, or clause a number of times with the purpose of emphasis or to provide unity to the poem.

Examples:

- *I told you, and I told you, and I told you again: do not touch that button!*
- *Balls, balls will be lost always, little boy.*

Anaphora ✨

Anaphora is a specific type of repetition in which a word or phrase is repeated at the beginning of successive clauses or sentences.

Examples:

- *It was* the best of times,
- *it was* the worst of times,
- *it was* the age of wisdom,
- *it was* the age of foolishness,
- *it was* the epoch of belief,
- *it was* the epoch of incredulity..."



Onomatopoeia (Sound Words)

Onomatopoeia is a figure of speech in which words imitate the sound or sounds they describe. In other words, the sound an onomatopoeic word produces is the meaning it intends to convey. 'Bang', 'pop', 'hiss' etc. are some onomatopoeic words.

Examples:

- *Ding-dong: The sound of a bell ringing.*
- *Buzz: The buzzing of bees filled the air.*
- *Hiss: The snake hissed menacingly as it coiled up.*
- *Meow: The cat meowed plaintively outside the door.*
- *Beep: The car horn beeped loudly in traffic.*

Ding-Dong
Meow

Topic : MCQs

#Q. From the given options, select the figure of speech (Poetic Device) used in the expression-

The bees buzzed angrily around the flowers.

↓
personification

- ☐ A Simile
- ☐ B Metaphor
- ☒ C Onomatopoeia
- ☐ D Hyperbole

#Q. **From the given options, select the figure of speech (Poetic Device) used in the expression-**

He's so thin that if he turned sideways, he'd disappear.

A Simile

B Hyperbole

C Oxymoron

D Metaphor

#Q. **From the given options, select the figure of speech (Poetic Device) used in the expression-**

Every day,

every night,

in every way, I am getting better and better.

A Alliteration

B Simile

C Anaphora

D Onomatopoeia



Irony

Irony is a literary device or a situation where there is a marked contrast between what is expected to happen and what actually occurs.

For example, if a fire station burns down, that's an example of situation irony because it's unexpected for an institution designed to prevent fires to be destroyed by one.

Oxymoron

A phrase that combines normally contradictory terms.

↓
opposite

Examples:

- ✓ Bittersweet
- Open Secret
- Original Copy
- Virtual reality
- Awfully good



Antithesis ★

Antithesis involves the presentation of contrasting ideas in parallel structures to create emphasis or highlight differences.

Examples:

"It was the **best** of times; it was the **worst** of times."

Charles Dickens, A Tale of Two Cities

"To **err** is human; to **forgive**, divine."

Alexander Pope, "An Essay on Criticism"

"Speech is silver, but silence is gold."



Topic : MCQs

#Q. From the given options, select the figure of speech (Poetic Device) used in the expression-

"The locksmith's own house was broken into last night."

↓
Break in

- A** Simile
- B** Metaphor
- ☒ **C** Irony
- D** Hyperbole

#Q. **From the given options, choose the correct figure of speech that has been used in the following expression:**

"The play was a tragic comedy."



A Antithesis

 **B** Oxymoron

C Allusion

D Metaphor

Allusion

An allusion is a literary device that makes a reference to a person, place, event, or work of literature or art, either directly or indirectly.

Examples:

- describing someone as having “Herculean strength” alludes to the legendary strength of Hercules
- referring to someone as “having the wisdom of Yoda” alludes to the character from “Star Wars”

Symbolism - ②

Symbolism is a literary device in which an object, person, situation, or action is used to represent a deeper meaning beyond its literal meaning.

Examples:

- For instance, the color red might symbolize passion or danger, while white might symbolize purity or innocence.
- In 'The Ball poem', 'ball' has been used as a symbol of the possessions a person may have. It is also symbolic of the childhood innocence of the boy.



Paradox

A paradox is a statement or situation that appears to be contradictory or logically absurd, but upon closer examination, reveals a deeper truth or meaning.

Examples:

- ✓ More is less
 - The beginning of the end
- } Knowledge

Synecdoche

Synecdoche is a figure of speech in which a part of something is used to represent the whole, or vice versa.

Examples:

- "He's driving a new set of wheels" refers to a new car, with "wheels" representing the vehicle as a whole. *→ Car*
- "He asked for her hand in marriage." *→ person*
In this phrase, "hand" is used to represent the person as a whole.

#Q. From the given options, choose the correct figure of speech that has been used in the following expression:

"Cowards die many times before their death."

A Simile

B Metaphor

C Alliteration

☒ D Paradox

#Q. From the given options, choose the correct figure of speech that has been used in the following expression:

"All hands on deck."

↓
Crew members

- A** Simile
- B** Paradox
- ☒ **C** Synecdoche
- D** Alliteration

#Q. From the given options, choose the correct figure of speech that has been used in the following expression:

"He's a modern-day Hercules."

A Synecdoche

☒ **B** Allusion

C Alliteration

D Simile



Poetic License

Poetic license is a convention that allows a poet to take liberty with language by changing the spellings or violating grammatical rules, with the purpose of creating rhymes, lyricism, rhythm, emphasis or humour.

Examples: *really* *truly*

- *Anda realio, trulio, little pet dragon*

Here for 'really', the word coined is 'realio' and 'trulio' is for 'truly'.

- *For there was a pirate, climbing in the winda.* *window*

Here the spellings of 'widow' have been changed to 'winda' to make it rhyme with 'Belinda'.

Transferred Epithet

Transferred Epithet is a figure of speech in which an adjective or modifier is grammatically applied to one noun but actually describes another noun in the sentence.

Examples:

- John had a sleepless night. 
- I felt a biting cold as I entered the valley.
- He faced the harsh reality of life.

Enjambment — ③

It is a poetic device in which a line runs on to the next line or lines carrying on the idea without a punctuation mark (a comma, or a full stop) at the end of a line.

Examples:

- *What, what is he to do? I saw it go*
Merrily bouncing, down the street, and then
Merrily over – there it is in the water!

} Enjambment

Topic : MCQs

#Q. From the given options, choose the correct figure of speech:

"He is a dreamer of dreams that never come true, but dreams he does."

A Allusion

B Poetic License

C Simile

D Metaphor

#Q. **Identify the figure of speech which has been used in the following expression:**

The tanned teenager tripped over the steps.

- ☒ **A** Alliteration
- ☐ **B** Paradox
- ☐ **C** Metaphor
- ☐ **D** Personification

Topic : MCQs

#Q. **What figure of speech (poetic devices) has been used in the following expression:**

The child smiled like a blooming flower.

- ☒ **A** Simile
- ☐ **B** Irony
- ☐ **C** Paradox
- ☐ **D** Oxymoron

#Q. From the given options, choose the correct figure of speech that has been used in the following expression:

"The classroom was a real zoo."



A Synecdoche 

B Allusion

C Alliteration

 **D** Metaphor



Thank
You