

Figurative Speech

- * **Metaphor** – suggests a similarity between two things
The road snakes around the mountain.
- * **Simile** – highlights the comparison between two things using like, as, resembles, etc.
The stars in the night sky were like sparkling diamonds.
- * **Personification** – giving human characteristics to things which are clearly not human
The outboard motor cleared its throat.
- * **Alliteration** – repeating words with the same beginning sound
Thomas tied two turnips to two tall trees.
- * **Imagery** – using vivid, descriptive words to conjure up an image
The car sped. - The flashy, yellow, mustang streaked like a bullet along the highway.
- * **Onomatopoeia** – using words that sound like what they mean
He slurped his soup.
- * **Hyperbole** – using exaggeration to make a point
Make me a sundae a mile high.

Assonance is the repetition of vowel sounds but not consonant sounds

eg: [fleet feet sweep by sleeping geeks.](#)

Assonance is the sequential repetition of vowel sounds, particularly in stressed syllables, as in the line "Full fathom five thy father lies," in which "fathom" and "father" and "five" and "lies" have paralleled vowel sounds.

Metaphor is the most common of the "figures" of speech. It is a comparison that we use without the help of "like" or "as." For example, we may say, "Julie is a gem." We are comparing her to a precious stone.

"Rain falls in teardrops from the sky"

If we were to say, "Here comes Jim clucking away"

we would be comparing Jim to a chicken even though we do not use the word "chicken" in our sentence.

Alliteration is the repetition of initial or beginning consonant sounds, as in the phrase "bright blue blaze of the noon sun." This technique is often used to draw attention to an object or an idea and to add to the rhythm of the poem.

Assonance is the repetition of vowel sounds in stressed syllables to achieve partial rhyme, as in the phrase "brave ladies live not in vain."

Rain

Splash goes the rain when it hits the ground
Rain restfully runs round
It runs down sidewalks and streets
Soaking everything in its way
Evaporating only to fall again




Frogs

Frogs frequently feast on flies for food
When they are in the mood
They are like Peter Pan in green tights
They eat flies and mites
They have a real big attitude



Punctuation

Use a **colon** [] before a list or an explanation that is preceded by a clause that can stand by itself. Think of the colon as a gate, inviting one to go on:

There is only one thing left to do now: confess while you still have time.

The charter review committee now includes the following people:

the mayor
the chief of police
the fire chief
the chair of the town council

You nearly always have a sense of what is going to follow or be on the other side of the colon.

Use a **semicolon** []

to help sort out a monster list:


There were citizens from Bangor, Maine; Hartford, Connecticut; Boston, Massachusetts; and Newport, Rhode Island.

OR

We had four professors on our committee: Peter Wursthorn, Professor of Mathematics; Ronald Pepin, Professor of English; Cynthia Greenblatt, Professor of Education; and Nada Light, Professor of Nursing.

to separate closely related independent clauses:

My grandmother seldom goes to bed this early; she's afraid she'll miss out on something.

Use **parentheses** [] to include material that you want to de-emphasize or that wouldn't normally fit into the flow of your text but you want to include nonetheless. If the material within parentheses appears within a sentence, do not use a capital letter or end-mark to punctuate that material, even if the material is itself a complete sentence. If the material within your parentheses is written as a separate sentence (not included within another sentence), punctuate it as if it were a separate sentence.

Thirty-five years after his death, Robert Frost (we remember him at Kennedy's inauguration) remains America's favorite poet.

Thirty-five years after his death, Robert Frost remains America's favorite poet. (We remember him at Kennedy's inauguration.)