

What are Rhetorical Devices?

Worksheet

Rhetorical devices are techniques like metaphor, irony, alliteration, and hyperbole that writers use to create effect, persuade, or add beauty to language. They turn ordinary sentences into powerful, memorable expressions.

Questions

1. Which is a simile?

- A) The world is a stage
- B) As bright as the sun
- C) Her laugh was music
- D) Time flies

2. 'The city never sleeps.' This is...

- A) Simile
- B) Hyperbole
- C) Personification
- D) Irony

3. Which device emphasizes through extreme exaggeration?

- A) Alliteration
- B) Hyperbole
- C) Assonance
- D) Simile

4. 'That's just great!' when something goes wrong is...

- A) Metaphor
- B) Hyperbole
- C) Irony
- D) Personification

5. Identify the rhetorical device: 'Her voice was like honey dripping from a spoon.'

6. Rewrite 'The wind moved the leaves' using a rhetorical device.

7. What device is 'I've told you a million times'? Why is it effective?

8. Define: What is a metaphor?

9. Define: What is alliteration?

10. Define: What is hyperbole?

Answer Key

1. B) As bright as the sun — 'As bright as the sun' uses 'as...as' — a simile. The others are metaphors.
2. C) Personification — Personification — giving the city human quality (sleep). Also suggests continuous activity (hyperbole).
3. B) Hyperbole — Hyperbole uses exaggeration for emotional effect and emphasis.
4. C) Irony — Irony — words mean opposite of literal meaning (expressing frustration as praise).
5. This is a SIMILE — uses 'like' to compare voice to honey. Comparison creates a sensory image: honey = sweet, smooth, warm. Effect: The reader feels the voice is pleasant and warm.
6. Original: 'The wind moved the leaves.' With PERSONIFICATION: 'The wind danced through the leaves.' Personification gives the wind human action (dancing), making it more vivid and playful.
7. HYPERBOLE — extreme exaggeration (not literally a million times). Effect: Conveys frustration and emphasizes repetition more powerfully than 'I've told you many times.' Hyperbole adds emotional weight and humor.
8. A direct comparison between two unlike things without using 'like' or 'as' (e.g., 'Time is money').
9. Repetition of the initial sound in nearby words (e.g., 'Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers').
10. Extreme exaggeration used for emphasis or effect (e.g., 'I'm dying of hunger').

Bounlu

All cards, step-by-step solutions and an AI tutor are in the Notek app.
Promy turns exam dates into automatic reminders.