

What are Rhetorical Devices?

Worksheet

Rhetorical devices are techniques that shape language for effect: metaphor ('My love is a rose'), simile ('Love is like a rose'), alliteration ('the beautiful blue butterfly'), and irony ('Nice day for rain'). Each serves a different purpose in persuasion or style.

Questions

1. 'She is a bright star in the team.' What device is this?
A) Simile
B) Hyperbole
C) Metaphor
D) Oxymoron
2. Which uses simile?
A) The sun is a golden ball.
B) Your eyes shine like diamonds.
C) Her voice was music.
D) Time is money.
3. 'I've been here a thousand times!' This is...
A) Simile
B) Hyperbole
C) Metaphor
D) Irony
4. 'Deafening silence' is an example of...
A) Metaphor
B) Alliteration
C) Oxymoron
D) Pun
5. Identify the rhetorical device and explain: 'Le monde est une scène.'
6. Which device is used? 'Elle parla avec une voix douce et mélodieuse.'
7. Analyze: 'Ses yeux brillaient comme des étoiles.'
8. Define: What is a rhetorical device?
9. Define: Difference between metaphor and simile?
10. Define: Example of alliteration?

Answer Key

1. C) Metaphor — Metaphor: direct comparison without 'like' — she is (figuratively) a star.
2. B) Your eyes shine like diamonds. — Simile uses 'like' — eyes are compared to diamonds with 'like'.
3. B) Hyperbole — Hyperbole: extreme exaggeration for effect or humor.
4. C) Oxymoron — Oxymoron: contradiction in terms (silence can't be deafening) for impact.
5. Device: Metaphor Direct comparison: world = a stage/theater Implies life is a performance, people are actors. No use of 'like' or 'as'.
6. Device: Alliteration (subtle) Repeated 's' sound (douce, soft-sounding) The repeated sounds create a musical, soothing effect. Alternatively, this could be called assonance (vowel repetition).
7. Device: Simile Comparison using 'comme' (like/as) Eyes = stars (brightness, radiance) Simile is explicit; metaphor would say 'Her eyes were stars.'
8. A linguistic technique used to create effect, persuade, or emphasize meaning.
9. Metaphor: direct comparison ('love is a rose'); simile uses 'like' or 'as' ('love is like a rose').
10. 'The beautiful blue butterfly' — repeated 'b' sound for musical effect.

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