

Literary Terms #11 – Figurative Language Part 2

- A. Allusion – figure of speech which refers to a reference to a well-known person, place, event, literary work, or work of art, often used to make a comparison.

Example: Don't be such a Scrooge.

1. Classical Allusion - figure of speech that makes a reference to a Greek or Roman mythology.

Example: One should avoid Cupid's arrows.

- B. Contrast – A comparison in which opposites are used. *This would be the opposite of a simile or metaphor.*

1. Oxymoron - Two contradictory words are written or said side-by-side.

Example: bitter sweet

- C. Parallel Structure (Parallelism) - The repetition of the same pattern of words or phrases within a sentence or passage to show that two or more ideas have the same level of importance.

Example: Ashley likes to ski, to swim and to jump.
That's one step for man, one giant leap for mankind.

- D. Apostrophe - To speak to someone who is not present or to something that cannot talk back.

Example: Twinkle, twinkle, little star,

- E. Idiom – a phrase which cannot be taken literally; it has a different meaning than what is literally stated. A manner of speaking that is known to a particular society or culture.

Example: raining cats and dogs.
A hot potato
Barking up the wrong tree

F. Synecdoche – to use a part to represent the whole; to use one part of a person to represent the whole person.

Example: He has fast wheels.

The gray beard walked with a cane.

The U.S. has boots on the ground in Afghanistan.

G. Pun – a humorous play on words.

Example: “There’s more of gravy than of grave about you,”