Ten Stylistic Devices to Use When Giving Speeches

1. What is the name of the concept that is more captivating, gratifying, and unforgettable for your audience? (4 words)

2. When we deny the opposite (French: *pas mal*) in order to comment on something or someone, that is known as what? (1 word)

3. The sentences, "We shall shortly see," and "Always ask anyway," are good examples of what literary device? (1 word)

4. What I present here is *what I remember of the letter*, and *what I remember of the letter* I remember verbatim (including that awful French). – from *Lolita* by Vladimir Nabokov. What is this an example of? (1 word)

5. "If you fail to plan, you plan to fail," is an example of which device? (1 word)

6. This device works by making a phrase memorable and even rhythmic. (1 word)

7. "*He is a man of loyalty—loyalty always firm,*" is an example of which device? (1 word)

8. Julius Ceasar's "*veni, vidi, vici,*" (I came, I saw, I conquered) is a famous example of which device? (1 word)

9. "We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools." - Martin Luther King, Jr. This is an example of what? (1 word)

10. "It's not rocket science," and "I don't deny that it is wrong," are both examples of which literary device? (1 word)

11. Repeating a phrase in reverse order is known as what? (1 word)

12. The most famous of these is from Shakespeare's Hamlet, "To be, or not to be". Which device was William using here? (1 word)

13. The effect of anadiplosis is both _____ (1 word) and _____. (2 words)

14. A device first used in Greek and Latin literature: it is a Greek word which means "unconnected". What is this device? (1 word)

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15. This device can help people more clearly conceive something that is unfamiliar to them. What is it? (1 word)

16. This is a direct comparison to show the similarity between two people or things. What is this device?

17. What does the word alliteration literally mean? (4 words)

18. This device can add variety and interest to a person's writing or conversations. What is it? (1 word)

19. Which device can be a very effective way to persuade an audience to support a character? (1 word)

20. "*Liberté, égalité, fraternité,*" is a classic example of what? (4 words)

21. Which famous Star Wars character is cited for using a literary device? (1 word) Which literary device does he use? (1 word)

22. The Greeks gave us this term so that you can do what you like and like what you do. What is this? (1 word)

23. The omission of conjunctions but still maintaining grammatical accuracy is what exactly? (1 word)

24. A type of figurative language that is used to compare two or more things is known as what? (1 word)

25. "That is as American as hot dogs, apple pie, and Ford pickup trucks," is an example of what type of literary device? (1 word)

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1. Alliteration (al·lit·er·a·tion): The repetition of a sound in the first syllable of each phrase. Alliteration is a literary technique derived from Latin which means "letters of the alphabet." It occurs when two or more words are linked that share the same first consonant sound, such as "fish fry." In the example below, you will see one string of three words beginning with "f," and another with three words beginning with "d."

> "They are part of the finest fighting force that the world has ever known. They have served tour after tour of duty in distant, different, and difficult places." – President Barack Obama

2. Anadiplosis (an·a·di·plo·sis): When a writer uses a word or phrase at the end of a sentence or clause and then repeats the same wording at the beginning of the next sentence or clause. Because the word or phrase is repeated, it receives a great deal of emphasis. This anadiplosis effect is both memorable and emotionally stirring. You can see powerful anadiplosis examples in some of the greatest speeches, poems, and essays ever written.

> "Suffering breeds character; character breeds faith." – Rev. Jesse Jackson
> "Fear leads to anger. Anger leads to hate. Hate leads to suffering." – Yoda
> "Once you change your philosophy, *you change your thought pattern*. Once *you change your thought pattern*, *you change your attitude.* Once *you change your attitude*, it changes your behavior pattern and then you go on into some action." – Malcom X

3. Antimetabole (an·ti·me·ta·bo·le): Antimetabole is derived from a Greek word which means "turning about." It is a literary term or device that involves repeating a phrase in reverse order.

> "Not all schooling is education nor all education, schooling." – Economist Milton Friedman
> "Absence of evidence is not evidence of absence." – Scientist Carl Sagan

4. Antithesis (an·tith·e·sis): A word, phrase, or sentence that opposes the original proposition. You're a brave and outgoing public speaker, but your best friend clams up at the thought of talking on stage. They are your antithesis: someone or something with a contrary characteristic. Authors and speakers use antithesis between characters[1], concepts[2], and situations[3] to draw contrasts in their work — which can be a very effective way to persuade an audience to support a character, vote a certain way or even buy a particular product.

> "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." – Martin Luther King, Jr.
> "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." – Neil Armstrong

5. Asyndeton (a·syn·de·ton): This is derived from the Greek word *asyndeton*, which means "unconnected." It is a stylistic device used in literature and poetry to intentionally eliminate conjunctions between the phrases, and in the sentence, yet maintain grammatical accuracy. This literary tool helps in reducing the indirect meaning of the phrase and presents it in a concise form. It was first used in Greek and Latin literature.

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"...and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth." – Abraham Lincoln
"He was a bag of bones, a floppy doll, a broken stick, a maniac." – Jack Kerouac

6. Diacope (di·ac·o·pe): A repeated word or phrase split up by other words; typically used to express a strong emotion. **Diacopae** or **diacopes** emphasize, describe, or specify. Often, diacope is used to express strong emotion or to draw attention to the repeated phrase. It works by making a phrase memorable and even rhythmic.

"Put out the light, and then put out the light." – William Shakespeare, Othello
"You're not *fully clean* unless you're Zest*fully clean*." – Zest Soap commercial

7. Litotes (li·to·tes): You've probably heard this if a friend ever told you her first date was "not bad." Litotes is essentially a double negative, expressed by denying an opposite idea; often used ironically.

"She's no dummy" (she's intelligent)
"This is no small problem" (this is a big problem)

8. Metaphor (met·a·phor): Figures of speech that are not true in a literal way. They're not lies or errors, though, because metaphors are not intended to be interpreted literally. They are a type of figurative language intended to convey a different meaning than the literal denotative (specific or direct) meaning of the word or phrases used. They are used in creative writing like poems and novels, as well as other types of writing, speeches and ordinary conversations. A figure of speech in which a word or phrase that ordinarily designates one thing is used to designate another, thus making an implicit comparison.

"All the world's a stage." – Shakespeare
"It's raining men, hallelujah!" – The Weather Girls (or, "It's raining Glenn, hallelujah!!" – me)
Metaphors are used in communication to help illustrate or explain something by comparing it to something else. Metaphors serve several functions:

- help people vividly visualize unfamiliar concepts
- explain unfamiliar situations meaningfully
- add variety and interest to a person's writing or conversations
- create strong images and leave lasting impressions
- pair the intangible with the literal

9. Simile (sim·i·le): A simile in English is a literary device that directly compares two things to show the similarities between the two. Generally speaking, a simile will include the words 'like' or 'as'.

"We will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream." – Martin Luther King, Jr.
"Life is like a box of chocolates." – Mama Gump

10. The Rule of Three (the·rule·of·three): This is a powerful technique that you can easily learn[1], practise[2], and apply[3] to every area of public speaking. Simply put, the Rule of Three is a very general principle that states that ideas presented in threes are inherently more interesting[1], more enjoyable[2], and more memorable[3] for your audience. https://davelinehan.com/rule-of-three-speechwriting/

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