

44 Figure of Speech

A figure of speech is a literary use of a word or words diverging from its usual meaning for the purpose of clarity, emphasis or freshness of expression.

Read about the common figures of speech given below :

Simile : A statement that directly compares two unlike things.

Metaphor : A statement of unreal comparison.

Apostrophe : A statement in the form of an address with an exclamation.

Alliteration : A statement with repetition of the initial letter or sound.

Irony : A statement that expresses something opposite and humorous.

Oxymoron : A statement with mutually opposite comparison.

Hyperbole : A statement that emphasizes unreasonable things.

Paradox : A statement that appears to contradict itself.

Personification : A statement in which a non-human object or aspect is represented as a person.

Metonymy : A statement in which one word or phrase is substituted with which it is closely associated.

Tick (✓) the correct names of the figures of speech used in the following sentences:

1. O black night, nurse the golden eyes. (*metonymy / apostrophe*)
2. The cat was chased by the rat. (*irony / personification*)
3. Around the rugged rocks the rugged rascal ran. (*oxymoron / alliteration*)
4. If I do not eat my daily papaya, I will surely die. (*metaphor / hyperbole*)
5. The wise fool is burning my taco. (*apostrophe / oxymoron*)
6. The road was a ribbon of moonlight. (*metaphor / paradox*)
7. The wall stared at me silently. (*irony / personification*)
8. I simultaneously composed and destroyed the opera while writing it. (*paradox / simile*)
9. The white House asked the television networks for airtime on Monday night. (*metonymy / hyperbole*)
10. The sun was like a large ball of butter. (*simile / alliteration*)