

Rhetorical device	Definition	Example
Alliteration	Saying two or more words in a row (or words close together) beginning with the same letter.	“They are part of the <b>finest fighting force</b> that the world has ever known.” (Barak Obama)
Anaphora	Repeating of a word or a phrase.	“ <b>I have a dream</b> 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. <b>I have a dream</b> today!” (Martin Luther King)
Antithesis	Contrasting.	“ <b>Speech</b> is silver, but <b>silence</b> is gold.”
Hyperbole	Exaggerating.	“You have heard of these problems a gazillion times.”
Litotes	Making an understatement, using irony or using a figure of speech.	”They do not seem the happiest couple around.” ”It may not be the smartest way of doing it”
Metaphor	Comparing two things without using the word “as” or “like” expressing implied meaning.	“He is a rat.”
Rhetorical pause	Letting the audience reflect a few seconds upon what has just been said.	“Is it fair to just walk pass the homeless people pretending that they don’t exist?” (Pause)
Rhetorical question	Ask a question that one does not want or need anyone to answer.	“What can be more fun than rolling around town in this beauty?”
Simile	Comparing by using the words “like” or “as”.	“He is like a penguin, slow on land but fast in water.”
Tricolon	Putting three words or phrases together which have the same length, structure or rhythm.	“You are talking to a man who has <b>laughed in the face of death, sneered at doom, and chuckled at catastrophe.</b> ” (The wizard in the Wizard of Oz) “Tell <b>me and I</b> forget. Teach <b>me and I</b> remember. Involve <b>me and I</b> learn.” (Benjamin Franklin and others)