

Poetic devices

Imagery: Imagery is used to signify all the objects and qualities of sense perception referred to in a poem or other work of literature, whether by literal description, by allusion or by the use of similes and metaphors.

Metaphor: A metaphor is a figure of speech that describes a person or object by referring to something that is considered to have similar characteristics to that person or object. It equates those two things not because they are actually the same but for the sake of comparison and symbolism.

For example, She is a shining star.

Her long hair was a flowing golden river.

Here ‘shining star’ and ‘a flowing golden river’ are metaphors.

Simile: A simile is same as metaphor in which two objects are compared except for the fact that unlike metaphors, the comparison here is made with the help of words like “like” or “as”.

For example, She is as innocent as an angel.

O my love is like a red red rose.

Mark the use of ‘as’ in the first sentence and ‘like’ in the second sentence.

Personification: It is a poetic device in which plants, animals or even inanimate objects are given human qualities.

For example, The wind howled in the night.

My house is a friend who protects me.