

Important terminology that you should know!

Device	Definition	Example
Proper Noun	A name used for a person, place or organisation- always has a capital letter	<i>Bob</i> went shopping I am going to <i>America</i> I love shopping at <i>Tescos</i>
Pronoun	A word used in place of a noun to stop unnecessary repetition	<i>I, we, he, she, they, you, it, us, me, my, them, him, her</i>
Verb	A word that shows an action	I <i>jumped</i> out of bed and <i>ran</i> to the kitchen where I <i>ate</i> my breakfast.
Adverb	Adds description to a verb- tells you how an action is completed	I jumped <i>quickly</i> out of bed and ate my breakfast <i>greedily</i> .
Adjective	Adds description to a noun	The <i>fluffy</i> cat It was a <i>beautiful</i> day
Simile	A comparison made using the words like or as	<i>The tears fell down her face like raindrops</i>
Metaphor	A comparison made by direct comparison- not literally true	<i>We have a mountain to climb to pass this English exam</i> <i>Her fiery eyes burned when I looked at her</i>
Alliteration	The repeated sound at the beginning or within a number of words that are close together	The train <i>ch</i> ucked to itself as it <i>ch</i> ugged along the <i>Ch</i> iltern Hill track next to the <i>ch</i> urch
Plosive alliteration	The stringing together of words that begin with plosive consonants. P, b, g, k	The <i>p</i> owerful <i>p</i> unch left a <i>b</i> lue <i>b</i> ruise.
Sibilance	The stringing together of s sounds, can be at the start or in words	The <i>s</i> nakes <i>s</i> lithered through the <i>g</i> rasses
Onomatopoeia	A word that almost sounds like the noise it is describing	The sausages <i>sizzled</i> in the pan The bubbles <i>popped</i> above us The car <i>screeched</i> to a halt.
Personification	Giving something that is not a human, human characteristics	<i>The tree's arms reached out to grab me</i> <i>The house looked on sadly as his owners moved out</i>
Oxymoron	A figure of speech in which apparently contradictory terms appear in conjunction	<i>'Light as a feather, heavy as lead'</i> <i>A big gulf</i> <i>A cold fire</i>

Anthropomorphism	Giving an animal features / characteristic of an human	The bear sat and rubbed his nose, contemplating how to remove the honey from the bees
Zoomorphism	Giving something (normally a human but not always) features of an animal	He scooped up the food with his big bear paw-like hands His teeth shone and his lips snarled
Pathetic fallacy	When the time of day, weather, light or dark, setting or words used relate to the mood of the text	Rainy weather-miserable mood Graveyard setting-spooky atmosphere
Juxtaposition	Two things being seen or placed close together with contrasting effect	A murder at a wedding Rain on a hot sunny day
Ambiguity	Two or more meanings	He lost his head (physically or emotionally)
Emotive language	Words used in order to provoke a reaction from the reader- it could be a positive or negative reaction	The poor, innocent, abandoned little kitten looked on with tears in his eyes
Imperative language	Words that appear as bossy-instructions	Do as you are told. Sit down over there please. Mix the butter with the sugar
Modal verbs	Words that suggest possibility	Can, could, would, should, may, might
Genre	A category of music, art or literature	Horror, romance, rock and roll, classic, pop, jazz, sci-fi etc.
Semantic field	Semantic Field is a term used to describe a group of words, all of which share a similar concept, theme, or subject.	The Seaside: waves / beach / ice-cream / children / beach ball/ crabs

