

# Literary Devices

- I.      **Synonyms and Antonyms**
- II.     **Metaphors and Similes**
- III.    **Metonymy and Synecdoche**
- IV.    **Irony and Hyperbole**

## I)      **Synonyms and Antonyms**

- i)      **Synonyms:** a word that means the same, or almost the same, as another word in the same language, either in all of its uses or in a specific context. Examples of synonyms in this sense are "environment" and "surroundings" and the verbs "tear" and "rip."
- ii)     **Antonyms:** a word that means the opposite of another word. For example, "hot" is the antonym of "cold."

## II)     **Metaphors and Similes**

- i)      **Metaphors:** the use to describe somebody or something of a word or phrase that is not meant literally but by means of a vivid comparison expresses something about him, her, or it, e.g. saying that somebody is a snake.
- ii)     **Similes:** a figure of speech that draws a comparison between two different things, especially a phrase containing the word "like" or "as," e.g. "as white as a sheet."

## III)    **Metonymy and Synecdoche**

- i)      **Metonymy:** a figure of speech in which an attribute of something is used to stand for the thing itself, e.g. "laurels" when it stands for "glory" or "brass" when it stands for "military officers."
- ii)     **Synecdoche:** a figure of speech in which the word for part of something is used to mean the whole, e.g. "sail" for "boat," or vice versa.

## IV)    **Irony and Hyperbole**

- i)      **Irony:** 1) something said or written that uses humor based on words suggesting the opposite of their literal meaning; 2) incongruity between what actually happens and what might be expected to happen, especially when this disparity seems absurd or laughable.
- ii)     **Hyperbole:** deliberate and obvious exaggeration used for effect, e.g. "I could eat a million of these."