

Figure of Speech Part - 1

Hello TNPSC Aspirants,

The General English syllabus's next topic is Figure speech from literature portion. This part on English Literature is very important. The Figure of speech will only takes place in the poem. In this article, we would like to discuss and give simple explanation on Figure of speech. Before getting in – deeper, we like to clarify what is '**Figure of Speech**'? It is a word or phrase that has a meaning something different than its literal meaning.

The TNPSC GE Question Paper's figure of speech will be taken from all poems of 6th to 12th Samacheer books. The figure of speech is usually used by poem writer to give the lines more expressive. The figure of speech can be asked from Poem such as

A Psalm of Life - Women's Rights - The Nation United - English words – Snake – The Man He Killed - Off to outer space tomorrow morning - Sonnet No.116 - The Solitary Reaper - Be the Best - O Captain My Captain - Laugh and Be Merry – Earth - Don't quit - The Apology - Be Glad your Nose is on your face - A sonnet for my Incomparable Mother - The Flying Wonder - To a Millionaire - The Piano – Manliness - Going for water - The cry of the Children - Migrant Bird - Shilpi.

Now let us check on different types of Figure of Speech. The Figure of Speech and its example are given below.

List of Figure of Speech:

1. Alliteration
2. Simile
3. Metaphor
4. Idioms
5. Personification
6. Homophones
7. Allusion

8. Oxymoron
9. Onomatopoeia
10. Anaphora
11. Ellipsis

Alliteration:

In a same poetic line, the repetition of the same consonant sound in several words is called as Alliteration. The Alliteration is the occurrence of the same letter of the word in same line.

Example: So we must laugh and drink from the deep blue cup of the sky.

Here the alliteration are **drink** and **deep**, where it sounds “**d**”.

Ex: 1 Join the Jubilant song.

Ex: 2 Better the world with a **blow** in the teeth of a wrong.

Ex: 3 Piles of **Purple** crystals.

Sparkling in the light.

Ex: 4 Yet when a **crack** causes.

Water to seep slowly through

Simile:

It compares one thing with another thing of a different kind.

The Simile can be found by those two words: “ **as brave as** ” a lion (or) **Like** brave lion

The Poetic line which has simile is given below,

1. Your summer invited me into your fields to be present at your labour, at the birth of **your jewel like fruits.**
2. You appeared to me **like a giant armed with furious tempests.** This line is taken from the Poem “ Earth”.

3. Underneath our heavy eye – lids drooping

The reddest flower would look **as pale as** snow.

This line is taken from the poem “Going for Water”

Metaphor: The Metaphor that compares 2 subjects without the use of ‘like’ and ‘or’

Ex: 1 In the beginning was the word

And the **word was God.**

Ex: 2 Here, **Captain! Dear father!**

Ex: 3 A notes as from a single place, a **Slender tinkling fall** that made.

Ex: 4 Then what gems would we see?

Perhaps a **beautiful heart.**

Idioms:

It is a group of words which has **different meaning from the actual meaning** of it.

Example: Idioms with its meanings are given below

1. A penny for your thoughts – tell me what you’re thinking about
2. As good as gold – Very well behaved
3. Drag up a child – bring up a child without proper training.
4. Still waters run deep – Never Judge anything by its appearance.
5. In hot water – in serious trouble

Homophones:

The words that sounds similar, but have different spelling and meaning.

Ex: 1 I thought you guys were going to **desert** me!

The Cherry pie looks so good for **dessert!**

Here **desert means an uninhabited land** and dessert means **eatable at the end of a meal**.

Ex: 2 I'm trying hard to not **lose** patience with her.

The knot might not hold, since it's sort of **loose**.

Now justify the difference by yourself.

Ex: 3 I Had no _____. He gave me a _____ of advise (Piece / Peace)

Answer: Peace , Piece

Personification:

The Non- Human Objects are portrayed in such a way that we feel they have ability to act like human beings.

In simple words, Human qualities are given to animals, objects or ideas

Example:

1. You pose the **cosmic riddles**
2. Within his **bending sickle's** compass come.

Here do riddles relates to cosmic? No. So it is personification.

We would like to give another 5 more figure of speech in our next article. So please stay withus for General English tips and explanation. The Question will be asked as follows,

1.my manhood is cast down in the flood of remembrance'.

Choose the right answer. The Figure of speech in this line is _____.

- a) Simile b) Metaphor c) Personification d) Anaphora

Ans: Metaphor

Here Metaphor is flood of remembrance, where it compares memory with flood.

2. More welcome notes to weary bands
a) Alliteration b) Homophones c) Idioms d) Simile

Ans: Alliteration. Here the alliteration is **W**elcome and **W**earry because it has same letter in 2 different words in same line.

3. The delicious cake in a Pastry shop make one's mouth watery.
a) Desire something that one loves to eat.
b) A person who does not fit in.
c) To manage a different situation with courage.
d) Something one may feel to buy it.

Ans: a. It means, tempt to eat.

4. It is the stare to every wand'ring bark
a) Alliteration b) Metaphor c) Personification d) Idioms

Ans: Here Idioms is **wandering bark**. Because it means '**lost boat**'.

5. But ranged **as** infantry
And staring face to face
a) Simile b) Metaphor c) Alliteration d) Allusion

Ans: Simile. Here "**as**" is used. So it is simile.

6. While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring
a) Oxymoron b) Ellipsis c) Personification d) Simile

Ans: Personification. Because it describes victory .

7. The Male candidates have alone received the mail from telecommunication department.
a) Homophones b) Metaphor c) Personification d) Oxymoron

Ans: Homophones. Because, the male and mail differs in spelling and also has different meaning such as **Male represents a Boy** and **Mail** represents a Electronic mail.

8. I don't know _____ to go for a hike or a swim in the rainy _____ condition.

- a) Wether , whether b) weather , wether c) Whetheir , whether d) whether, weather.

Ans: Whether, Weather.

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