

## Figure of Speech Part - 2

TNPSC Aspirants,

We are here to guide all aspirants especially the beginner who are interested to face the exam on February 2018. From our previous post, we would like to give continuation of figure of speech as part II. In this article, we are going to discuss about Allusion, Oxymoron, Anaphora, Ellipsis, repetition, Hyperbole and Apostrophes.

### Allusion

The statement refers to something, without mentioning it directly. Allusion is an indirect statement.

**Ex: "15mins of fame"** – It means someone receive a great deal of media attention.

**"Catch 22"** – It means defeat.

**"Don't act like Romeo in front of her"** – It refers a character named Romeo, who loved Juliet in the Shakespeare play of "Romeo and Juliet" indirectly.

### Onomatopoeia

It refers to words which sound similar to the sound they describe.

Ex: 1 – Meow sound of cat

Ex: 2 – Roar sound of Lion

Ex: 3 – Caws sound of crows

Ex: 4 – Rumble sound of Thunder

### Poetic line example for Onomatopoeia:

So now it is vain for the singer to burst into clamour

Here the Onomatopoeia is burst into clamour; it means the loud noise made by many people.

### **Oxymoron**

It is a striking opposition or contrast of a word.

**Ex:** Dark light, Living dead, Mad wisdom & Falsely True.

Here the opposite of dark is light. Likewise, you can see opposite meaning of a word to put together to give sense for the word.

**Ex:** “ why, then, O brawling love! O Loving hate !

Here loving hate is a figure of speech – Oxymoron. This kind of Oxymoron is used by Shakespeare in his plays. These lines are taken from “**Romeo and Juliet**” Play.

### **Anaphora**

It creates Rhythm. The Anaphora is a Repetition of a word or a phrase at the beginning of a successive clause.

**Ex:** You blossomed into a nascent loveliness

You ripened into nectar in Fruit – Jars.

Here these two lines looks **repeated in same sense** or format. Thus it is Anaphora – Figure of Speech.

### **Ellipsis**

The Ellipsis is a series of dots. That indicate an intentional omission of words. Ellipsis is nothing but using “.....” in between sentences to fill the gaps while reading it out.

The Ellipsis are mostly used to give signal confusion, disapproval, hesitation or to show more to come on the way.

**Ex: 1** So.....what happened?

**Ex: 2** But if thought he was.....

Mostly this figure of speech didn't cover in our Poem syllabus. But chances are there to ask in exams to confuse the aspirants. So please don't ignore any segment in General English. Knowing new concepts is not wrong. It is also knowledge.

### **Repetition**

From the word 'repetition' itself, one can identify the repeated words in same poetic line.

**Ex:** But O heart! heart! heart!

Here heart is repeated 3 times, so it comes under Figure of speech – Repetition.

**Ex:** On a hot, hot day and I in pyjamas for the heat.

This is a poetic line from 'The Snake'. Here hot is repeated twice in same line. So "Hot" is repetition in the above poetic line.

### **Apostrophes**

It is an exclamatory passage in a speech or poem addressed to a person. It is a special form of Personification.

**Ex:** O Judgement! Though art fled to brutish beast.

Here **O Judgement!** is a special personification in case of Apostrophes

### **Hyperbola**

Hyperbola compasses or describes things in an exaggerated way for the sake of emphasis.

**Ex:** 'I'm starving' – When one is merely Hungry

I'm Freezing – When one is quite cold.

**Type of Questions in TNPSC exam:**

1. You loved me with a never – failing love  
You gave me strength and sweet security

Find the figure of speech of the above mentioned Poetic line.

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

**Answer: c**

Here You loved me... You gave me... those two lines are same in format. So it is ticked as **Anaphora**.

2. But the young, young children, O my brothers  
a) Metaphor b) Allusion c) Repetition d) Ellipsis

**Answer: c**

Here the word ‘ young’ is repeated twice. So, the figure of speech is **repetition**.

3. Success is failure turned inside out  
a) Simile b) Metaphor c) Hyperbole d) Oxymoron

**Answer: b**

Here the success and failure are compared without the usage of ‘like’ and ‘as’. So it is metaphor.

4. We ran as if to meet the moon  
a) Simile b) Metaphor c) Hyperbole d) Oxymoron

**Answer: c**

Here, the moon is personified. It is means; the actual ran is for water, but the poet described as exaggerated as they ran for moon. So it is Hyperbole.

Now you all got cleared on the topic “figure of speech”....