

**Part B : Topic 1: Figure of Speech Observed in the following poems**

**Explanation:**

**Alliteration:**

- The repetition of similar sound usually consonant at the beginning of the word.

**Allusion:**

A reference within a literary work to a historical, literary, or biblical character, place, or event.

- Your backyard is a garden of eden.

**Simile:**

- A comparison of two things through the use of the words like or as.

**Metaphor:**

➤ The comparison of one thing to another that does not use the terms "like" or "as." a figure of speech that compares two unlike things:

- "Her hair is silk."

**Personification:**

➤ The use of human characteristics to describe animals, things, or ideas. assigning human qualities to non-human things.

- "The tropical storm slept for two days."

**Oxymoron:**

- The association of two terms that seem to contradict each other, such as "same difference" or "wise fool."

**Onomatopoeia:**

➤ The use of words like pop, hiss, or boing, in which the spoken sound resembles the actual sound. words that imitate sounds. "Boom. Gurgle. Plink. Woof"

- Why then, O brawling love! O loving hate!

**Anaphora:**

- It is a deliberate repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of several successive verses, clauses, or paragraphs.

Ex;

- "The ice was here, the ice was there, the ice was all around"

**Ellipsis:**

- Ellipsis is the omission of a word or words. It refers to construction in which words are left out of a sentence can still be understood.

Ex;

- Lacy can do something about the problem, but I don't know what (she can do)

**Rhyming scheme:**

- A rhyme scheme is a regular pattern of rhyme, one that is consistent throughout the extent of the poem. See how to show a rhyme scheme below:

- There once was a big brown cat- a  
That liked to eat a lot of mice- b  
He got all round and fat -a  
Because they tasted so nice- b

**Rhyming words:**

- The basic definition is two words that sound alike. Rhyme is perhaps the most recognizable convention of poetry. Rhyme helps to unify a poem.

- Katie took a trip to the beach.

- She brought two books, and a peach.

**Repetition:**

- Sometimes the important word in a sentence is repeated to give expression to some deep emotion such as  
"Alone, alone, all alone, Alone on a wide, wide sea"

**Apostrophe:**

- Apostrophe is a figure of speech in which speaker speaks directly to something which is nonhuman or nonexistent.

Ex;

- Car , please get me to work today.

**Pun:**

- A play on words that uses the similarity in sound between two words with distinctly different meanings.

words with a humorous double meaning, a "play on words."

- "A dog not only has a fur coat but also pants."

**Irony:**

- irony is a device that emphasizes the contrast between the way things are expected to be and the way they actually are..

ex;

- if we call a weak and extremely thin person as Bruce Lee. It aims at bringing about humour as well as criticism

**Imagery:**

- Language that brings to mind sensory impressions.

Ex;

- Glittering white, the blanket of snow covered everything in sight.

**Hyperbole:**

- An excessive overstatement or conscious exaggeration of fact.
    - "I've told you that a million times already" is a hyperbolic statement.
- an expression of exaggeration.
- "I nearly died laughing."

**Cliche:**

- An expression, such as "turn over a new leaf," that has been used and reused so many times that it has lost its expressive power.

**Assonance:**

- The repetition of vowel sounds in a sequence of nearby words.
- Identity or similarity in sound between internal vowels in neighbouring words.

Ex;

- Music that brings sweet sleep down from the blissful skies.
- Here are cool mosses deep,
- And through the moss the ivies creep,
- And in the stream the long-leaved flowers weep

**Metonymy:**

- An object is designated by the name of something which is generally associated with it.

Examples:

- The bench for the judges,
- the crown for the king,
- the laurel for the success.

**Synecdoche:**

- A figure of speech in which a part is used to represent the whole

Ex;

- ABCs for alphabet
- England won the World Cup in 1966

**Transferred Epithet**

- It is a fine figure of speech in which an epithet (or adjective) grammatically qualifies a noun other than the person or thing it is actually describing. Also, it is known as hypallage.

Ex:

It often involves shifting a modifier from the animate to the inanimate.

“He passed a sleepless night”

**Figure of speech taken from poem:**

**1. Alliteration:**

- (i) For the soul is dead that slumbers  
And the grave is not its goal  
Was not spoken of the soul  
Find us farther than today  
In the world’s broad field of battle  
Be not dumb driven cattle  
Sailing over life’s solemn main  
Learn to labour and to walk
- (ii) you cannot rob us of the rights we cherish  
so let us, unobtrusive and unnoticed  
be privileged to fill the air around us  
to die, and not a heart that does not love us.
- (iii) Mark’d how to explore the vacant vast surrounding  
It launch’d forth filament, filament, filament, out of itself.
- (iv) Speech that came like leech – craft.  
you bleached our souls soiled with impurities  
of a purer, drearier, delight  
Sweetened within our souls for aeons bright  
The burthen of a waneless, winterless spring
- (v) We should have sat us down to wet  
or help to half a crown  
11<sup>th</sup> poem
- (vi) Then you and every soul on earth can go and blow your top
- (vii) We can’t all be captains, we ‘ve got to be crew.  
It is some dream that on the deck.  
You ‘ve fallen cold and dead.
- (viii) Old age and youth alike mistaught, misfed

- (ix) Good men perform just deeds, and brave men die  
And win not honour such as gold can give
- (x) Softly in the dusk, a women singing to me
- (xi) A child sitting under the piano, in the boom of strings  
And pressing the small, poised feet of a mother who smiles as she sings
- (xii) A mirror of his changing moods
- (xiii) Laugh for the time is brief, a thread the length of a span.
- (xiv) That I walk alone in grave and glen

**2. Simile:**

- a) Be not like dumb driven cattle!  
Be a hero in the strife  
Still, like muffled drums are beating  
Funeral marches to the grave.
- b) As humble plants by country hedgerows growing
- c) Speech that came like leech – craft.  
Like a golden swarm of fireflies you came.  
That hung like clustered stars.  
O winging words, like homing bees you borrow.
- d) And I like a second comer, waiting  
He lifted his head from his drinking, as cattle do.  
And looked at me vaguely, as drinking cattle  
And lifted his head, dreamily as one who has drunken  
And flickered his tongue like a forked night on the air, so blacks  
And looked around like a god, unseeing, into the air.  
Like a king in exile, uncrowned in the underworld
- e) In solit'ry confinement as complete as any goal
- f) With the teacups circling around me like the planets round the sun.
- g) I weep like a child for the past
- h) We ran as if to meet the moon
- i) We paused like gnomes that hid us from the moon
- j) Now drops that floated on the pool like pearls.
- k) The reddest flowers would look as pale as snow
- l) Laugh and be merry together, like brothers akin
- m) Join the jubilant stars and sweeping

**3. Metaphor:**

- (I) Life is but an empty dream  
Dust thou art to dust returnest  
In the bivouac of life  
Sailing O'er life's solemn main  
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother
- (II) Surround, detached, in measureless oceans of space
- (III) O tongues of fire! You came devouring

- O winged seeds, you crossed the furrowed seas  
And shrubs that were but thorn mills in our flesh.
- (IV) Tracking through you telescope my upward shooting star.
- (V) O, no ! it is an everfixed mark  
It is star to every wandering barks.
- (VI) And sings a melancholy strains  
No nightingale did ever chaunt  
More welcome notes to weary bands  
A voice so thrilling ne'er was heard  
In spring time from the cuckoo bird.
- (VII) If you can't be a pine on the top of the hill  
Be a bush, if you can't be a tree  
If you can't be a bush; be a bit of grass.  
If you can't be a muskie, then just be a bass  
If you can't be a highway, then just be a trail,  
If you can't be the sun, be a star.
- (VIII) O captain , my captain ! our fearful trip is done  
The ship has weather'd every rack, the prize we sought is won.
- (IX) Of childish days is upon me, my manhood is cast  
Down in the flood of remembrance, I weep like a child for the past.
- (X) Through the coal dark, underground....
- (XI) Made them, and filled them full with the strong red wine of his mirth  
So we must laugh and drink from the deep blue cup of the sky  
Guesting a while in the rooms of a beautiful inn.  
Glad till the dancing stops.

**4. Rhyming scheme:**

- a) Tell me not in mournful numbers- a  
Life is but an empty dream- b  
For the soul is dead that slumbers- a  
And things are not what they seem- b
- b) As humble plants by country hedgerows growing- a  
That treasure up the rain- b  
And yield in odours, ere the day's declining-a  
That gift again.- b
- c) Had he and I but met- a  
By some old ancient inn,-b  
We should have sat us down to wet- a  
Right many a nipper kin- b
- d) If you can't be a bush, be a bit of the grass, -a  
And some highway happier make; -b  
If you can't be a muskie, then just be a bass-a  
But the liveliest bass in the lake! -b

**5. Rhyming words:**

- a) Tell me not in mournful numbers  
Life is but an empty dream  
For the soul is dead that slumbers  
And things are not what they seem
- b) As humble plants by country hedgerows growing  
That treasure up the rain  
And yield in odours, ere the day's declining  
That gift again.
- c) Had he and I but met  
By some old ancient inn  
We should have sat us down to wet  
Right many a nipperkin
- d) The music in my heart I bore  
Longafter it was heard nomore
- e) It you can't be a pine on the top of the hill,  
Be a scrub in the valley but be  
The best little scrub by the side of the rill;  
Be a bush, if you can't be a tree.

**6. Allusion**

Dust thou art to dust returnest = bible  
You pose the cosmic riddle – biblical allusion

**7. Synecdoche:**

To die, and not a heart that does not love us

**8. Apostrophe:**

- i. And you o my soul where you stand
- ii. Till the bridge you will need be form'd till the ductile anchor hold,  
Till the gossamer thread you fling catch somewhere, O my soul.
- iii. Exult, o shores ! and ring, o bells!.

**9. Personification:**

- (i) Admit impediments. Love is not love  
Which alters when its alteration finds  
Or bends with the remover to remove  
Love's not time's fool though rosy lips and cheeks  
Within his bending sickle compass come
- (ii) While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring  
Rise up – for you the flag is flung – for you the bugle trins.
- (iii) The world in gloom and splendour passes by
- (iv) If you can meet with triumph and disaster  
And treat those two imposters just the same
- (v) When she found as soon
- (vi) O you wheels'

Stop! Be silent for today!

- (vii) I go to the god of the wood.

**10. Oxymoron:**

- (i) Harmonic cacophony to oblivious ear

**11. Assonance:**

- (i) Laugh and be merry: remember in **olden** time  
 Made them and filled them full with the strong red wine **of** his mirth.  
 Laugh and be merry together, like brothers **akin**  
 Guesting **awhile in** the rooms of a beautiful **inn**
- (ii) How perfect your **obedience** to the light  
 And in the valley I have **observed** your tranquility  
 You are the mouth and lips of **eternity**  
 How generous you are, **earth**, and  
 And you dress our wounds with **oil** and balsam  
 We empty **our** waste in your bosom, and you will  
 We **extract** your **elements** to make  
 The **east** to the west of the universe?
- (iii) **Are**, we discouraged?  
 The first real **aero plane** really flew
- (iv) I **often** contemplate, my childhood, mom  
 All these you spent **on** me throughout the years
- (v) Success **is** failure turned **inside** out.  
 When the road you are trudging seems **all upright**
- (vi) Not pasted **on** some **other** place  
 Were it **attached atop** your head

**12. Anaphora:**

- (i) I have walked over your plains  
 I have climbed your stony mountains  
 I have descended Into your valleys;  
 I have entered Into your caves.
- (ii) **On** the plains I have discovered your dreams,  
**On** the mountains I have admired your splendid presence  
 [ I, on are repeated on the beginning]
- (iii) **They** glided here , they glided there  
**They** sometimes skinned their noses
- (iv) I often contemplate my childhood, mom  
 I am a mother now, and so I know
- (v) **When** things go wrong, as they sometimes will  
**When** the road you are trudging seems all uphill.

**13. Refrain:**

Be glad your nose is on your face – the lines of the poem are repeated.