

Other important terms

Cohesion

It refers to the links or connection between successive clauses and sentences in a text.

Coherence

It is the reader's understanding or perception that a text (paragraph or essay) is logical and meaningful.

Scanning:

Scanning is going through a text quickly with a view to looking or searching for a specific piece of information.

Skimming:

Skimming involves looking through a text quickly to derive the gist something.

Reprography:

Reprography is the facilities for photocopying or xeroxing in a library.

Eponymous word:

Words whose origin is traced to individuals are known as *Eponyms* and the words derived from these names are called *Eponymous* words.

e.g.:

'Boycott' means 'to shun or refuse to have dealings with as a means of protest or to force change'. [Captain Charles Boycott, a 19th Century Irish land agent was shunned by local tenants for refusing to lower their rents]

Euphemisms

Euphemism is the use of an inoffensive word or phrase in place of a harsh or possibly offensive one.

e.g. This school is for the *visually challenged*. (blind)

Cliche

The word 'cliché' comes from the French word 'cliquer' 'Cliché' refers to 'a phrase or word which is used too often to the point of monotony'. A good user of English will be too careful to avoid clichés in his speech and writing.

Rhyme:

Usually, the similarity of sounds in the words at the ends of lines of verse.

e.g. The noisy geese that gabbled over the pool

The playful children just let loose from school

Alliteration:

To sit in solemn silence in a dull, dark, dock

(repetition of consonant sounds in the beginning of words, in a line)

Rhythm:

The arrangement of accented or stressed and unaccented or unstressed syllables.

e.g. When I / have fears / that I / may cease / to be
[10 syllables – 5 units of rhythm (pentameter). Each unit has unstressed followed by stressed syllables.]

Poetic license:

The freedom, considered to be a poet's prerogative, in taking liberty with language rules.

e.g. Shakespeare's 'most unkindest cut of all.'

Imagery:

Comparison between two unrelated objects or ideas to clarify the sense.

e.g. The sea that bares her bosom to the moon. (metaphor)

O, my love is like a red, red, rose. (simile)

Diction:

A choice of words to create an effect.

Brutus is noble, wise, valiant and honest

Caesar was mighty, bold, royal and loving

Archaisms:

A word which is no longer in use.

e.g. "There was a ship," quoth he.