

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

English III

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mrs. Fisher

### Rhetorical Devices Chart

Directions: As we progress throughout the year in your understanding of rhetoric, **your task is to add examples of each term from texts we use in class**, thereby cementing your understanding of what each term actually is in a text and your ability to explain what it is each device does (its function).

Literary Term/source	Definition	Example
<b>Persuasive Techniques</b>		
Rhetoric	The art of discourse, an art that aims to improve the capability of writers or speakers that attempt to inform, persuade, or motivate particular audiences	
Logos	Logos names the appeal to reason or intellect	
Ethos	Ethos names the persuasive appeal of one's character, especially how this character is established by means of the speech or discourse	
Pathos	Pathos names the appeal to emotion	
<b>Figurative/Literary Devices</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Example</b>
Alliteration	The recurrence of initial consonant sounds. The repetition can be juxtaposed	
Allusion	A short, informal reference to a famous person or event	
Anecdote	A short tale narrating an interesting or amusing biographical incident to illustrate a point.	
Aphorism	a brief saying embodying a moral, a concise statement of a principle or precept given in pointed words	

Apostrophe	A direct address to a person, thing, or abstraction	
Ellipsis	Omission of a word or short phrase easily understood in context.	
Euphemism	Using a mild or gentle phrase instead of a blunt, embarrassing, or painful one.	
Metaphor	A comparison made by referring to one thing as another	
Metonymy	Reference to something or someone by naming one of its attributes.	
Personification	Treating abstractions or inanimate objects as human, that is, giving them human attributes, powers, or feelings.	
Simile	An explicit comparison, often (but not necessarily) employing "like" or "as."	
Symbolism	When an author uses an object or idea to suggest more than its literal meaning. A person, place, or event stands for something other than it is, usually something broader or deeper than it is	
Synecdoche	Type of metaphor in which the part stands for the whole, the whole for a part, the genus for the species, the species for the genus, the material for the thing made, or in short, any portion, section, or main quality for the whole or the thing itself (or vice versa).	
Understatement	Deliberately expresses an idea as less important than it actually is, either for ironic emphasis or for politeness and tact.	

<b>Syntactical Devices</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Example</b>
Anadiplosis	Repetition of the last word of one phrase, clause, or sentence at or very near the beginning of the next.	
Anaphora	Repetition of the same word or words at the beginning of successive phrases, clauses, or sentences.	
Antithesis	Establishes a clear, contrasting relationship between two ideas by joining them together or juxtaposing them, often in parallel structure.	
Asyndeton	Omitting conjunctions between words, phrases, or clauses.	
Chiasmus	"Reverse parallelism," The second part of a grammatical construction is balanced or paralleled by the first part, only in reverse order. Instead of an A,B structure paralleled by another A,B structure, the A,B will be followed by B,A.	
Epanalepsis	Repetition of the beginning word of a clause or sentence at the end.	
Epistrophe	The repetition of the same word or words at the end of successive phrases, clauses, or sentences	
Juxtaposition	Two things being seen or placed close together with contrasting effect.	
Parallelism	Recurrent syntactical similarity. Several parts of a sentence or several sentences are expressed similarly (to show that the ideas in the parts or sentences are equal in importance.)	
Polysyndeton	The use of a conjunction between each word, phrase, or clause, and is thus structurally the opposite of asyndeton.	

<b>Rhetorical Question</b>	A question not answered by the writer, because its answer is obvious or obviously desired, and usually just a yes or no, used for effect, emphasis, or provocation, or for drawing a conclusion from the facts at hand.	
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