Hyperbole



An extreme exaggeration, used for emphasis.

Allusion



A reference to something familiar to explain a more complex idea.

Irony



The twist in a situation that causes an unexpected result.

Onomatopoeia



Words that mimic sounds.

Idiom

An expression where the words included mean something different than the literal.



Alliteration

Several words repeating the same initial sound.



Personification



Description of an object or animal as if it is human.

Simile

Comparison of two different things using "like" or "as".



Metaphor



A comparison between two unlike things with something important in common.

Euphemism



A mild term used in place of a blunt or offensive word.

Oxymoron



Opposite or contradictory terms placed side by side to create a different meaning.

Adage

Words of wisdom that are considered true by many.



Paradox



A statement that appears to contradict itself, but makes sense with more thought.

Pun



A humorous word play based on a double meaning.

Analogy



A description that demonstrates how two unlike things have multiple characteristics in common.