

Principal Rhetorical and Literary Devices

1. **Alliteration:** repetition of the same letter at beginning of words or syllables: *Marcus me momordit.*
2. **Anaphora:** the repetition of a word or phrase for emphasis: *non feram, non sinam, non patiar*
3. **Anastrophe:** inversion of usual word order (e.g., preposition after the word it governs): *te propter vivo* (instead of the expected *propter te vivo*)
4. **Aposiopesis:** breaking off in the middle of a sentence: *quem ego . . . sed non possum pergere.* ("Whom I . . . but I cannot go on.")
5. **Apostrophe:** addressing a person who is not present: *O maiores, quid diceretis de hac re?* ("Oh ancestors, what would you say about this matter?")
6. **Asyndeton:** omission of conjunctions: *videt, sentit, scit.*
7. **Chiasmus:** "a-b-b-a" arrangement of words: *magnas urbes oppida parva* (adjective, noun, noun, adjective)
8. **Ellipsis:** omission of words: *Dixit me inventum.* ("He said I had been found." *esse* is missing).
9. **Hendiadys:** use of two nouns together to express a noun modified by an adjective: *luctus et labor* (meaning "grievous toil")
10. **Hyperbole:** exaggeration. *Catilina est mons vitiorum.* ("Catiline is a mountain of vices.")
11. **Hysteron proteron:** placing first what the reader might expect to come *last mortuus est et hostem inruit* ("He died and he rushed against the enemy")
12. **Litotes:** use of a negative to express a strong positive *Haud stultus erat Cicero.* ("Cicero was very intelligent").
13. **Metaphor:** expression of meaning through an image *Horatius est lux litterarum Latinarum.* ("Horace is the light of Latin literature.")
14. **Metonymy:** substitution of one word for another that it suggests *Neptunus me terret* (to mean, "the sea frightens me").
15. **Onomatopoeia:** use of words that sound like their meaning *Murmurant multi* (the "m"'s produce the sound of murmuring).
16. **Oxymoron:** use of an apparent contradiction *parvum monstrum*
17. **Personification:** attribution of human characteristics to something not human *Ipsa saxa dolent.* ("The rocks themselves grieve")
18. **Pleonasm:** use of superfluous words *Oculis me videt.* ("She sees me with her eyes.")
19. **Polysyndeton:** use of many conjunctions *et videt et sentit et scit*
20. **Prolepsis (anticipation):** use of a word sooner than it would logically appear *submersis obruit puppis* ("he overwhelms the sunken ships").
21. **Simile:** comparison using a word like *sicut, similis, or velut.* *Volat sicut avis.* ("He flies like a bird.")

22. **Synecdoche:** use of part to express a whole *Prora in portam navigavit.* ("The ship sailed into the harbor." prora [prow] for navis [ship]).
23. **Tmesis:** the separation of a compound word into two parts *saxo cere comminuit brum* (for *saxo cerebrum comminuit*: "He smashed his brain with a rock.").
24. **Tricolon crescens (ascending tricolon):** combination of three elements, increasing in size
non ferar, non patiar, non tolerabo
25. **Zeugma:** use of one word in two different senses simultaneously *Aeneas tulit dolorem et patrem Troia.* (Aeneas carried grief and his father from Troy).

