A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair.
• Anaphora/paradox-

PARADOX- a statement or proposition that, despite sound (or apparently sound) reasoning from acceptable premises, leads to a conclusion that seems senseless, logically unacceptable, or self-contradictory
We have lost a great president, a great American, and a great man, and I have lost a dear friend.

Margaret Thatcher
• ANAPHORA-repetition of word/words at the beginning of successive phrases/clauses

• Conduplicatio work?
• From “The Adventures of Pinocchio” written by C. Colloid,

• “He cried all night, and dawn found him still there, though his tears had dried and only hard, dry sobs shook his wooden frame. But these were so loud that they could be heard by the faraway hills...”
• Hyperbole - over exaggeration - “sobs could be heard by the faraway hills”
Personification (dawn found, sobs shook)
• "Prepar'd to scrub the entry and the stairs. The youth with broomy stumps began to trace."

• Jonathan Swift, “A Description of the Morning”
SYNECDOCHE

• the broomy stumps refer to the broom as a whole
"O western wind, when wilt thou blow That the small rain down can rain?" "Bright star, would I were steadfast as thou art"

- John Keats
• Apostrophe-speaking to something that is not present
• "Immature poets imitate; mature poets steal."

(T.S. Eliot, "Philip Massinger," 1920)
Parallelism

EC- A poster with a quote from T. S. Eliot was on my wall for years. (I just removed it Mon). What did his words say?
EC. “Do I dare disturb the universe?”
'I lived at West Egg, the - well, the least fashionable of the two, though this is a most superficial tag to express the bizarre and not a little sinister contrast between them.'

-Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*
• Euphemism—understatement—polite way of describing West Egg as the “least fashionable”
“Give me life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness”
Parallelism
• "The means are at hand to fulfill the age-old dream: poverty can be abolished. How long shall we ignore this underdeveloped nation in our midst? How long shall we look the other way while our fellow human beings suffer? How long?"
(Michael Harrington, The Other America: Poverty in the United States, 1962)
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Rhetorical Questions

OR

Anaphora
"I don't care a fig for his sense of justice--I don't care a fig for the wretchedness of London; and if I were young, and beautiful, and clever, and brilliant, and of a noble position, like you, I should care still less."
(Henry James, *The Princess Casamassima*, 1886)
• Polysyndeton-
frequent use of conjunctions
• from the poem “Yet Do I Marvel”

• “The little buried mole continues blind,
Why flesh that mirror Him must someday die”
Metonymy

• Countee Cullen uses “flesh” to represent human and questions God why we have to die when we are created in His likeness.

• “The little buried mole continues blind, Why flesh that mirror Him must someday die”
• She is all states, and all princes, I.”

• John Donne, a metaphysical poet, in “The Sun Rising”
“She is all states, and all princes, I.”

• Metaphor – comparing the woman to states and himself to princes.
This was not Aunt Dahlia, *my good and kindly aunt*, but my Aunt Agatha, the one who chews broken bottles and kills rats with her teeth.

(P.G. Wodehouse)
This was not Aunt Dahlia, *my good and kindly aunt*, but my Aunt Agatha, the one who chews broken bottles and kills rats with her teeth."

- **Apposition**-adding more detail about Aunt Dahlia immediately after introducing her.
"Then I'll be all aroun' in the dark. I'll be ever'where--wherever you look. Wherever they's a fight so hungry people can eat, *I'll be there*. Wherever they's a cop beatin' up a guy, *I'll be there*. . . . . An' when our folk eat the stuff they raise an' live in the houses they build--why, *I'll be there*."

(Tom Joad in John Steinbeck's novel *The Grapes of Wrath*, 1939)
• Epistrophe - repetition at the ends of phrases/clauses
"[W]ith a vigorous and sudden snatch, I brought my assailant harmlessly, his full length, on the not over clean ground--for we were now in the cow yard."
(Frederick Douglass, My Bondage and My Freedom, 1855)
"[W]ith a vigorous and sudden snatch, I brought my assailant harmlessly, his full length, on the *not over clean ground*--for we were now in the cow yard."

**Litotes**—understatement of how dirty the ground was
Winston Churchill during the Second World War

We shall not flag or fail. We shall go on to the end. We shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air, we shall defend our island, whatever the cost may be, we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills. We shall never surrender.
• Anaphora
Many people believe John F. Kennedy was a great leader. As a US President, he served during the continuing anti-communism crusade of the 1940s and 1950s. He united citizens. He raised citizen's hopes and dreams, instilling in people a desire to take personal action. A friend of mine volunteered in homeless shelters before volunteering became such a buzz word like it has today. He once met this guy...I think his name was Charlie...well, Charlie had a lisp and rolled his r's in his words--my friend thought that was really funny! I told him he shouldn't make fun of people! But...well anyway... President Kennedy really encouraged people to give of themselves!
• Digression-moving away from topic/getting off topic
"I'll kill him though," he said. "In all his greatness and his glory."

*Old Man and the Sea*, Ernest Hemingway
• Alliteration

Define- EC
With a loud “Pop!”, the popcorn started cooking.
With a loud “Pop!”, the popcorn started cooking.

ONOMATOPOEIA
“Who was not embarrassed when the administration handed a major propaganda victory-Who does not feel a growing sense of unease-Who does not feel rising alarm when the question in any discussion of foreign policy is no longer...”

Ronald Reagan

**NOT ANAPHORA**-LOOK AT STRUCTURE
From nose to toes, the body is beginning to sag (repetition of vowel sounds within words)
ASSONANCE-
“From nose to toes”
(o sound)
Just as he bent over to tie his shoelace, a car hit him.

Across the stream, beyond the clearing, from behind a fallen tree, the lion emerged.
Just as he bent over to tie his shoelace, a car hit him.

Across the stream, beyond the clearing, from behind a fallen tree, the lion emerged.

PERIODIC SENTENCE—a sentence written so that the full meaning cannot be understood until the end.
“First and last”, “odds and ends”,
“short and sweet”, “a stroke of luck”,
“struts and frets”

(notice how the words’ ends SOUND)
“First and last”, “odds and ends”,
“short and sweet”, “a stroke of luck”,
“struts and frets”

(notice how the words’ ends SOUND)

CONSONANCE-repetition of consonant sounds-final consonant sounds
Bill: I believe that abortion is morally wrong.
Dave: Of course, you would say that, you’re a priest.
Bill: What about the arguments I gave to support my position?
Dave: Those don’t count. You’re a priest, so you have to say that abortion is wrong. You’re a lackey to the Pope, so I can’t believe what you say.
AD HOMINEM FALLACY-Latin for “to the man”-fallacy of logic in which a person’s character or motive is attacked instead of that person’s argument
Unseen in the jungle, but present are tapers, jaguars, many species of snake and lizard...
ANASTROPHE - word order is reversed or rearranged
A car hit me, just as I was bending over to tie my shoelaces.
A car hit me, just as I was bending over to tie my shoelaces.

LOOSE SENTENCE (usually ends with a dependent clause-modifying phrase)
Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.
CHIASMUS-

Figure of speech in which two or more clauses are related to each other through a reversal of structures in order to make a larger point; that is, the clauses display inverted parallelism.
She caught a cold and the baseball.
ZEUGMA-The word “caught” is being applied literally (to baseball) and figuratively (to cold). ←Oh look, parenthesis!
• 'I like a smuggler. He is the only honest thief’

-Charles Lamp
• Oxymoron (honest/thief)
“I’d like to thank the elite media for doing something that, quite frankly, I wasn’t sure could be done, and that’s unifying the Republican party and all of America in support of Senator McCain and Governor Palin.”

Mike Huckabee
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-IRONY-states the opposite of what is expected
The grass is green and neatly cut, and the **building** cast a **watchful eye** over the clean, quiet campus.
Personification- “the building cast a watchful eye”-building has human quality
• Ralph Wiggum: Martin Luther King had a dream. Dreams are where Elmo and Toy Story had a party and I was invited. Yay! My turn is over!

Principal Skinner: One of your best, Ralphie.

("The Color Yellow," The Simpsons, 2010)
• Non Sequitur - statement following makes no logical sense to statement preceding it
He worked hard at being lazy
He worked hard at being lazy.

PARADOX

There is some element of truth to paradox statements.
Our knowledge separates as well as unites; our orders disintegrate as well as bind; our art brings us together and sets us apart.
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ANTITHESIS—contrasting ideas
You are free to execute your laws, and your citizens, as you see fit.”
Star Trek: The Next Generation
ZEUGMA-The word “execute” is being applied literally (citizens) and figuratively (laws). ⇐Oh look, parenthesis!
Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.
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The Escort is the most widely sold car in the world; therefore, it must be the best.
The Escort is the most widely sold car in the world; therefore, it must be the best.

Latin for “to the crowd”-fallacy—widespread occurrence of something is assumed to make it right or true.
• "So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past."

_The Great Gatsby_, F. Scott Fitzgerald
• Alliteration
"I came, I saw, I conquered".

- Translated from the Latin saying 'Veni, Vidi, Vici' these are words by Julius Caesar describing one of his greatest victories.
• Asyndeton - no conjunctions in a series of phrases/clauses for short, punctuated speech
Major Premise: J & G Construction builds unsafe buildings.
Minor Premise: J & G Construction built the Tower Hotel
Conclusion: The Tower Hotel is an unsafe building.
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Minor Premise: J & G Construction built the Tower Hotel
Conclusion: The Tower Hotel is an unsafe building.
-deductive reasoning-two statements or premises are made and a logical conclusion is drawn from them
"Brrrrrrriiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiinng! An alarm clock clanged in the dark and silent room."

(Richard Wright, *Native Son*, 1940)
• Onomatopoeia