

Interrogative Pronouns – a pronoun used in order to ask a question *e.g. who, which, what, whom, whose; Which car will they give us?*

Sentence Related Terminology

Active Sentence – a sentence where the subject performs the action stated by the verb

Affirmative – a positive statement affirming that something is positive

Antithesis – putting two opposing concepts together using grammar *e.g. give me liberty or give me death*

Clause – a group of related words that has both a subject and a verb

Complex Sentence – contains one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses

Compound Sentence – consists of two independent clauses joined by a conjunction

Compound-complex sentence – consists of two independent clauses and one or more dependent clause

Declarative – makes a statement. This is your basic type of sentence.

Ellipsis – used to demonstrate that one or more words have been omitted in a quotation

Exclamatory – an exclamation.

Interrogative – a question. To arouse the reader's curiosity and encourage them to read on to find an answer, or to prompt the reader to think of their own opinion on a matter

Inversion – reversing or changing the order of words in a sentence for emphasis of one particular part

Juxtaposition – putting contrasting ideas together

Listing – setting out items in list form, often using commas or bullet points

Minor Sentence – an incomplete sentence that may be missing a subject

Oxymoron – a figure of speech that juxtaposes elements that appear to be contradictory within a phrase *e.g. giant midget*

Parallelism – repeating similar grammatical structures to give rhythm

Parenthesis – brackets; used to insert additional information into a sentence

Passive Sentence – the subject is acted upon by the verb

Predicate – the rest of the sentence when not including the subject – contains the verb

Repetition – re-stating a word, phrase, sentence or concept a number of times for emphasis *e.g. location, location, location*

Colloquialism – the use of colloquial language in a formal situation

Incongruity – language is deliberately mismatched in the situation e.g. *“Oh Hell” said the Queen of Parliament*

Invective – speech or writing that attacks, insults or denounces a person, topic or institution

Irony – the expression of one’s meaning by using language that normally signifies the opposite, typically for humorous or empathic effect

Litote/Meiosis – understatement

Parody – most often referred to in pop-culture as ‘spoof’; makes fun of general expected conventions of a genre. It is the imitation of the serious manner and characteristic features or a particular work

Pun – a play on words, often where two words sound similar or the same

Satire – using humour at the expense of a significant person or idea to convey a serious point or objection

Self-Depreciation – the writer highlights/exposes his/her shortcoming

Stereotype – oversimplified representation of class, gender, religion, race or occupation

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