

- ellipsis** *The omission of a word which is considered unnecessary (usually because of context). Examples might include:*
- a) *an adjective without a noun.*
e.g. multa (verba) dixit.
 - b) *a genitive without the word on which it depends.*
e.g. Metella (uxor) Caecilii.
 - c) *a verb without its object.*
e.g. obiit (mortem).
 - d) *a clause lacking all or part of a verb.*
e.g. quid multa (dicam)?
denique puer ingressus (est).
- enjambment** *When one line runs into the next by a single word, isolating and therefore emphasising that particular word.*
- hendiadys** *When a single idea is expressed by two coequal parts, often using two nouns where we might expect an adjective and a noun.*
e.g. pateris et auro libamus (*instead of pateris aureis*).
- hyperbole** *Rhetorical exaggeration.*
- hyperbaton** *Drawing attention to a word by moving it from its expected position.*
- litotes** *Understatement, or the "diplomatic" underplaying of meaning. i.e. when less is said than is meant.*
e.g. laudare non possum (*instead of culpae volo*).
- onomatopoeia** *Words whose sound reflects their meaning.*
e.g. susurrare.
- pleonasm** *The use of more than one word or phrase with the same meaning.*
- polyptoton** *The successive use of two alternative forms of the same word.*
e.g. ... mihi meis ..
- polysyndeton** *The use of numerous conjunctions within one sentence.*
- sibilance** *When a group of words combine to suggest a hissing sound (created by letters called "sibilants" - mainly "s").*

- spondee** *A foot containing two long syllables.*
- synecdoche** *Use of a "part" to represent the "whole".
e.g. "carina" (keel) to represent "navis" (ship).*
- transferred epithet** *Describing a noun with an adjective which would normally be applied to a different noun, and thus has a dramatic impact on our impression of the noun.
e.g. sultry Jupiter.*
- tricolon** *When an idea is built on in two successive clauses or sentences. If these increase in length it is a "tricolon crescendo"; if they decrease it is a "tricolon diminuendo".
e.g. We will fight them on the beaches. We will fight them on the hills. We will fight them in the fields.*
- zeugma** *Many words have more than one sense or meaning. If such a word appears only once in a sentence, but more than one of its meanings is implied, this is "zeugma".
e.g. et torquem et cognomen induit. (She put on/took on both his necklace and his name).*

Other useful terms

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|---------------------|------------------------|
| antithesis | meaning |
| appreciation | metaphor |
| atmosphere | mood |
| character | moral |
| contrast | personification |
| convey | picture |
| describe | reference |
| effect | rhyme |
| emphasis(e) | rhythm |
| exaggeration | simile |
| explain | sound effect |
| express | successful |
| feeling | suggest |
| frame | vivid |
| humour | word order |
| imagery | word pattern |
| irony | |