

EXERCISES ON LITERARY
TECHNIQUES FOR NOVEL WRITING
II

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Tolentino Tuition, Grade 7 English

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TECHNIQUES

Previously, we discussed the literary techniques of metaphor, simile, personification, allusion, alliteration and imagery (visual, auditory, tactile, olfactory, and gustatory).

We will now learn four new techniques.

Table 1. Foreshadowing and hyperbole

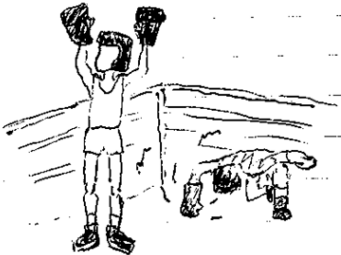


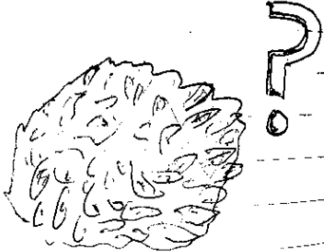
<p>Foreshadowing</p> 	<p>Definition Using language to hint at events which will occur later in the text.</p> <p>Example <i>The boxer in red threw his arms in the air – rejoicing at his knockdown. In doing so, he did not hear the glove pound the floor of the ring behind him.</i></p> <p>Explanation We are hinting that the fighter in red has not yet won the match, and that the other fighter will continue to fight later in the story.</p>
<p>Hyperbole</p> 	<p>Definition Using extremely exaggerated language (which the reader can tell is exaggerated) in order to describe something or make a point.</p> <p>Example When asked about his thoughts on the man, the boy replied, “he expelled breath more fatal than the bubonic plague!”</p> <p>Explanation A reader would reasonably know that the man’s breath would not literally be fatal (i.e. cause death) like the bubonic plague was. We are simply trying to help the reader imagine a man with horrible smelling breath.</p>

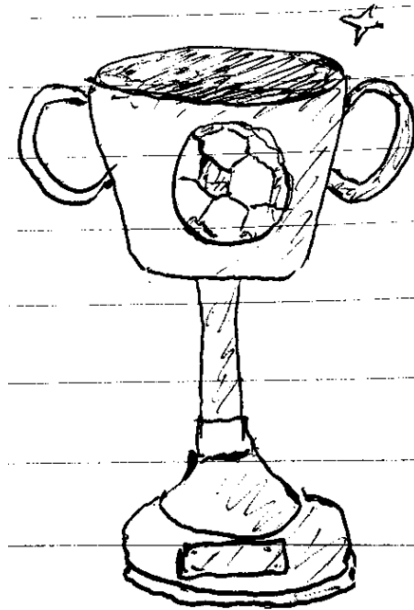
Table 2. Foreshadowing and hyperbole

<p>Extended metaphor</p> 	<p>Definition Creating a metaphor (saying that one thing is another) through the use of multiple sentences (or even an entire literary work!).</p>
	<p>Example John's voice was not a voice, but a croak. He was referred to by the townsfolk as the 'timid toad'.</p>
	<p>Explanation Our metaphor compares John to a frog, but we have created this metaphor using two sentences. In the first, we say that John's voice is a croak – John cannot literally croak, as a frog would. In the second sentence, we say that John is a 'timid toad' – he is not literally a toad.</p>
<p>Idiom</p> 	<p>Definition A phrase that gets its meaning from how society commonly uses it rather than the meanings of the individual words in the phrase.</p>
	<p>Example Johannes felt that Myra was beating around the bush.</p>
	<p>Explanation The idiom is 'beating around the bush'. This is a phrase that gets its meaning from how society commonly uses it, which is to describe someone who is avoiding doing something. 'Beating around the bush' does not get its meaning from the meaning of the words 'beating' and 'bush', as the meanings of these words have nothing to do with someone who is avoiding doing something.</p>

EXERCISE 1

Please recall the prompt from our previous discussion:

You are an author, writing a novel set in 1942, Nazi Germany. The protagonist of your novel is a Jewish football player, who tackles the rampant discrimination in Germany whilst pursuing their football ambitions throughout the story.



Please attempt to write a short portion of the above story (a minimum of five sentences, at either the introduction, climax, or ending) in which foreshadowing, hyperbole, extended metaphor and idiom are present at least once each.