

Some rhetorical devices to analyze newspaper articles, speeches etc.

Rhet. device:	Explanation:	Example:
alliteration	repetition of sounds, usually consonants, at the beginning of words that are close together	"Let us go forth and <u>lead</u> the <u>land</u> we <u>love</u> ." (John F. Kennedy)
anaphora	repetition of a word or expression at the beginning of phrases, sentences or verses	" <u>One ring</u> to rule them all, <u>one ring</u> to find them, <u>one ring</u> to bring them all ..."
repetition	deliberately using a phrase or word more than once	There was <u>water</u> , <u>water</u> everywhere.
antithesis (pl: antitheses)	contrasting things or ideas (or combining opposite ideas)	"in <u>good</u> times and in <u>bad</u> , in <u>sickness</u> and in <u>health</u> "
simile	comparison between two objects or ideas, introduced by <i>like, as</i> or <i>as if</i>	Holidays are <u>like</u> heaven.
metaphor	comparison between two objects or ideas <u>without</u> a word of comparison (<i>like, as, as if</i>) / combination of two words from different fields that are not usually used together	Holidays are heaven. "the table of brotherhood" (Martin Luther King junior)
enumeration	listing of words or phrases	"and now <u>faith</u> , <u>hope</u> , and <u>love</u> abide" (bible: 1 st Corinthians 13)
hyperbole	overstatement, exaggeration	I've told you <u>a million times!</u>
rhetorical question	question asked only to make a statement or to produce an effect rather than to get an answer	Shouldn't we try to be friendlier towards each other?

➤ **How to make up sentences:**

The author	makes use of	a metaphor	(in order) to emphasize ...
	uses	many alliterations	to put emphasis on ...
	employs	repetitions	to underline ...
	repeats ...		to stress ...
	draws a comparison between A and B		to illustrate his argumentation.
	compares A with B		to convey a lively/vivid impression.
	contrasts A with B		to draw the readers' attention to ...
	...		to arouse the reader's interest.*
			to attract the reader's attention/curiosity.*
			to make the reader think.
			to amuse/entertain the reader.

* These expressions should only be used for rhetorical devices in the headline or in the first sentence(s)!

➤ **These aspects can also help you to analyze newspaper articles, speeches etc.:**

choice of words: many positive or negative terms / rather formal or informal language / amount of technical terms / many words from the same semantic field (like *nature*) / emotive words or phrases / ...

sentence style: very short (simple) or long (complex) sentences / parallelisms (the same structure in sentences following another) / ...

content: amount of facts and figures (→sources?) / amount of quotations (→also consider who is quoted!) / to describe a sad or shocking scene / to describe one's own emotions / to address the reader directly / ...

Don't forget to give examples and lines for those aspects!