

Language and Structural Techniques

Language	Structure
Noun: a person, place, thing, idea	Simple sentence: contains one clause with a subject and verb
Verb: an action or state	Compound sentence: contains two independent clauses that are related and joined with a conjunction
Modal Verb: expresses necessity or possibility	Complex sentence: contains one or more subordinate clause
Imperative: gives an order or command	Impact sentence or Fragment: contains three or less words
Adverb: modifies a verb, adjective, adverb or phrase	Repetition: a word or phrase that is used more than once
Adjective: describes a noun	Triple: three adjectives or phrases used to describe something
Pronoun: used in place of a noun	Juxtaposition: two things placed together to highlight the contrast between them
Superlative: an adjective showing the highest quality or degree	Anaphora: the repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of successive clauses
Symbolism: the use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities	Listing: a number of connected items written one after the other to emphasise a particular quality
Alliteration: the same letter or sound at the start of adjacent words	Links between paragraphs: a recurring idea, character or object in two or more paragraphs to foreground the importance
Metaphor: direct comparison of two things without using 'like' or 'as'	Shifts in focus: the change of focus in or between paragraphs
Simile: comparing two things using 'like' or 'as'	Zooming in and out: the narrowing or widening of the narrative focus.
Personification: the giving of human characteristics to a non-human object	Chronological structure: arranged in the order of time
Semantic field: the use of a group of words that all link to the same topic	Flashback / Flashforward: set earlier or later than the main narrative
Hyperbole: exaggeration that should not be taken literally	Links between the beginning and ending: a narrative link between the start and end of a text
Imagery: vivid description of a particular scene	Exposition: introduction of background information on characters, events or settings to help anchor the reader
Auditory imagery: vivid description of sounds	Climax: the most intense point in the development of the narrative
Tactile imagery: vivid description of physical sensation	Narrative voice: 1st / 2nd / 3rd person
Olfactory imagery: vivid description of smell	Direct speech: the speech of a character in ""
Gustatory imagery: vivid description of taste / flavour	Tense: past, present, future
Kinesthetic imagery: vivid description of movement or body position	Foreshadow: an advance hint of what is to come later

Useful phrases when discussing structural techniques:

The writer / author...

builds...

develops...

contrasts...

intensifies...

reinforces...

highlights...

foregrounds...

isolates...

layers...

begins...

maintains...

juxtaposes...

sequences...

shifts...

introduces...

emphasises...

constructs...

organises...

guides...

anchors...