

## Some literary devices that help make writing memorable:

- ❖ **Anaphora:** one of the devices of repetition in which the same expression (word or words) is repeated at the beginning of two or more lines, clauses, or sentences. "*Live in New York City once, but leave before it makes you hard. Live in Northern California once, but leave before it makes you soft.*"
- ❖ **Alliteration:** the repetition of sounds, especially initial consonant sounds in two or more neighboring words (she sells sea shells).
- ❖ **Allusion:** direct or indirect reference to something which is presumably commonly known, such as an event, myth, book, place, or work of art. Allusions may be historical, literary, religious, topical, or mythical.
- ❖ **Ambiguity:** the multiple meanings, either intentional or unintentional, of a word,
- ❖ **Repetition:** the duplication, either exact or approximate, of any element of language, such as a sound, word, phrase, clause, sentence, or grammatical pattern. "*Maybe you'll marry, maybe you won't. Maybe you'll have children, maybe you won't.*"
- ❖ **Colloquialism:** the use of slang or informalities in speech or writing. Not generally acceptable for formal writing, colloquialisms give the work a conversational, familiar tone.
- ❖ **Diction:** word choice
- ❖ **Connotation:** the emotional meaning of a word, not exactly what the dictionary says.
- ❖ **Metaphor:** a comparison without "like" or "as." *The marshmallow clouds drifted lazily.*
- ❖ **Simile:** a comparison that uses "like" or "as." *The clouds were like fluffy marshmallows.*
- ❖ **Imperative mood:** used for commands. "*Floss.*"
- ❖ **Parallelism:** refers to the grammatical or rhetorical framing of words, phrases, sentences, or paragraphs to structural similarity. "*Don't be reckless with other people's hearts. Don't put up with people who are reckless with yours.*"
- ❖ **Syntax:** The way an author chooses to join words into phrases, clauses, and sentences.
- ❖ **Periodic Sentence:** is not grammatically complete until its end. Periodicity is accomplished by the use of parallel phrases or clauses at the opening or by the use of dependent clauses preceding the independent clause
- ❖ **Onomatopoeia:** A figure of speech in which natural sounds are imitated in the sounds of words. *Buzz, hiss, hum, crack, bang.*