**Literary Device Chart**

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| **Literary Device** | **Definition** | **Example** |
| Alliteration | The repetition of a speech sound in a sequence of words; the term is usually applied only to consonants. It is the recurrent sound at the beginning or a stressed syllable within a word. | Clashed and clattered |
| Allusion | An indirect reference to a familiar figure, place or event that is known from literature, history, myth, religion, or some other field of knowledge. | Garden of Eden = utopia  Serpent = evil character |
| Cliché | A trite, stereotyped expression usually expressing a popular or common thought or idea that has lost its originality and impact because it has been overused. | Never judge a book by its cover. |
| Foreshadowing | A hint of events that are yet to come. | Close-up of a knife on the table indicating some violence later in the story. |
| Imagery | A picture created by a writer using concrete details, adjectives, and figures of speech, which gives readers a vivid impression of what or who is being described. | Simile, metaphor, descriptive language that uses 2 or more of the 5 senses (see, hear, touch, taste, smell) |
| Irony (Verbal): | Occurs when a character says one thing literally, but really means something else. | Like sarcasm: That was a delightful argument! |
| Irony (Dramatic) | Occurs when the writer or dramatist reveals something important to the reader or audience that a character in the plot does not know. | The police officers eating the lamb leg in *Lamb to the Slaughter* – audience knows the lamb leg is the murder weapon, the characters do not |
| Metaphor | A figure of speech that makes a comparison between two seemingly unlike things without using connective words such as *like* or *as*. | The girl is a rose blooming quickly.  The shoe is a boat. |
| Oxymoron | A figure of speech in which apparently contradictory terms appear together. | Deafening silence  Tall midget, Icy Hot |
| Paradox | A statement that seems contradictory or absurd but is actually valid or true. | "War is peace." "Freedom is slavery." "Ignorance is strength." (George Orwell, *1984*) |
| Pathetic Fallacy | A literary device in which nature or inanimate things are described in a way that is sympathetic to or prophetic about events and the emotions of the characters. | Rain when someone is sad.  Lightening when something bad is going to happen.  Snow when someone is dying. |
| Personification | A metaphor in which human attributes are given to inanimate objects. | The flowers danced in the sun. |
| Pun | A play on words that are either identical in sound (homonyms) or very similar in sound, but are sharply diverse in meaning. | The beauty school drop-out missed her test, so she had to do a **make-up** exam. |
| Onomatopoeia | The formation or use of words with meanings that are connected to their sounds. | Buzz, Boom, Bang |
| Simile | A figure of speech that makes a comparison between two seemingly unlike things using a connective word such as *like* or *as*. | She’s as skinny as a toothpick.  The moon was like a flashlight in the sky. |
| Symbol: | A person, place, thing, or event that stands both for itself and for something beyond itself. | Maple leaf = Canada  Blue maple leaf (The Toronto Maple Leafs) = embarrassment |