



# Higher Still Notes

www.hsn.uk.net

## Higher English

HSN42000  
Figurative Language and Sounds

### Contents

#### Figurative Language

- Comparisons (Imagery)
- Other Figures of Speech

#### Sounds

These notes were created specially for the Higher Still Notes website, and we require that any copies or derivative works attribute the work to us.

For more details about the copyright on these notes, please see <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/1.0/>

# Figurative Language

## Comparisons (Imagery)

<b>Simile</b>	A is like or as B
<b>Metaphor</b>	A is B
<b>Personification</b>	Metaphor where an inanimate object is given living qualities

## Other Figures of Speech

### Sound Effects

<b>Alliteration</b>	repetition of a letter at the beginning of a series of words
<b>Assonance</b>	repetition of a sound in a series of words
<b>Onomatopoeia</b>	where words imitate sounds
<b>Pun</b>	play on words with similar sounds, but different meanings

### Making a Point

<b>Hyperbole</b>	deliberate exaggeration
<b>Litotes</b>	deliberate understating
<b>Euphemism</b>	using inoffensive language to convey an uncomfortable truth
<b>Circumlocution</b>	talking round a point; stating something indirectly

### Contrasts

<b>Paradox</b>	a contradiction which contains a truth
<b>Oxymoron</b>	words with opposite meanings placed together
<b>Juxtaposition</b>	placing side by side

### Word Use

<b>Neologism</b>	coining a new word
<b>Archaism</b>	a word from the past, out of current usage
<b>Cliché</b>	once original phrases, now tired and overused

## Sounds

Letter	Type of Sound	Sound Effect
b and p	Plosive	Hard
hard c, g, qu and k	Guttural	Harsh, often unpleasant
d and t	Dental	Neutral
f, th and v	Fricative	Can be unpleasant when combined with a short vowel
l, w and y	Liquid	Mellifluous and pleasant, but the w sound can be mean
m and n	Nasal	Usually pleasant
soft c, s and z	Sibilant	Soporific or hissing
r	Rolling	Almost like a vowel