

TDC PART I (H)
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
BY Dr. R.k.Thakur
Class -2

Figures based on Association

When two objects or ideas are invariably experienced together, they become connected together in the mind in such a way that whenever we think of one of them, we are instantly reminded of the other. This mental process is known as Association, and its operation is distinctly traceable in each of the four figures which have been grouped under this class.

1. Metonymy: (GK meta – change, onoma - name)

The definition of a metonymy is a figure of speech in which one thing is replaced with a word closely associated with it. An example of a metonymy is referring to the King as "the Crown."

The figure consists, as its name signifies, in substituting, the name of one thing for that another to which it has a certain relation. The different kinds of substitution used in metonymy are the following:

A) The symbol or sign for the things symbolized, as:

- i) He ascended the throne (symbol of sovereignty)
- ii) He was raised to the bench (the office of a Judge)

B) The instrument or organ for the agent, as:

- i) The press (journalists) wields enormous power
- ii) A thousand lances (soldiers)

C) The effect for the cause or the cause for the effect, as:

- i) He is basking in the sun (sunshine)
- ii) Swiftly flies the feathered death (arrow)

D) The container for the thing contained, as:

- i) He drank the fatal cup (contents of the cup)
- ii) All the city (inhabitants of the city) rose in arms
- E) The name of a passion for the object inspiring it, as:
 - i) He is the pride of his country (one whom his countrymen feel proud)
 - ii) Lycidas, your sorrow (object of sorrow), is not dead.
- F) The act for the object of the act, as:
 - i) But half a plague, and half a jest (object of jest)

2. Synecdoche (The understanding of one thing for another)

Synecdoche is a figure of speech in which a word or phrase that refers to a part of something is substituted to stand in for the whole, or vice versa. For example, the phrase “all hands on deck” is a demand for all of the crew to help, yet the word “hands”—just a part of the crew—stands in for the whole crew.

By this figure a more comprehensive term is used for a less comprehensive or vice versa.

Following are the different varieties:

- A) A part for the whole:
 - i) A man bowed down with seventy winters (years)
 - ii) No useless coffin enclosed his breast (body)
- B) The Whole for a part:
 - i) Dust thou (body) art, the dust returnest.
 - ii) Wake the purple year (spring)

- C) A species for the genus:
- i) Silver & Gold (riches) I have none.
 - ii) Man must earn his bread (food) by the sweat of his brow.
- D) The genus for a species:
- i) Drink, pretty creature (lamb), drink
 - ii) Tassels (ships) large may venture more,
But little boats should keep on shore.
- E) An individual for the class (Antonomasia):
- i) Everyman is not a Solomon (as wise as king Solomon)
 - ii) A Daniel (a wise and impartial judge) come to judgement.
- F) The material for the thing made:
- i) He was dressed in linen (linen clothes)
 - ii) Grace this cold marble (monuments) with a fear.

Hypallage or Transferred Epithet

Hypallage is often used strikingly in Ancient Greek and Latin poetry. Examples of transferred epithets are "the winged sound of whirling", meaning "the sound of whirling wings" (Aristophanes, *Birds* 1198), and Horace's "angry crowns of kings"

By this figure an epithet is transferred or shifted from the object to which it properly belongs, to another with which it is associated in the mind of the writer or speaker. Thus in the sentence – ‘They have marched a weary way’ - the epithet ‘weary’, which strictly applicable to the persons marching, is transferred from them to the ‘way’. Other examples:

- i) To scorn delightful and live laborious day
- ii) The bellman's drowsy charm

(Transferred Epithet: A transferred epithet is a little known—but often used—figure of speech in which a modifier (usually an adjective) qualifies a noun other than the person or thing it is actually describing. In other words, the modifier or epithet is transferred from the noun it is meant to describe to another noun in the sentence.)