

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Figure_of_speech

The four fundamental operations, or categories of change, governing the formation of all figures of speech are:

- addition (adiectio), also called repetition/expansion/superabundance
- omission (detractio), also called subtraction/abridgement/lack
- transposition (transmutatio), also called transferring
- permutation (immutatio), also called switching/interchange/substitution/transmutation

Examples

New TV show called "Forever Young" - the older woman says GPS devices are the most dangerous things in the world.

"Can't Fight This Feeling" by REO Speedwagon

- I tell myself that I can't hold out forever
- You're a candle in the window On a cold, dark winter's night
- It's time to bring this ship into the shore and throw away the oars, forever

Wikipedia Examples

- "Around the rugged rocks the rugged rascal ran" is an example of [alliteration](#), where the consonant *r* is used repeatedly.

Whereas, "Sister Suzy sewing socks for soldiers" is a particular form of alliteration called [sibilance](#), because it repeats the letter *s*.

Both are commonly used in poetry.

- "She would run up the stairs and then a new set of curtains" is a variety of [zeugma](#) called a [syllepsis](#). *Run up* refers to ascending and also to manufacturing. The effect is enhanced by the momentary suggestion, through a [pun](#), that she might be climbing up the curtains. The [ellipsis](#) or omission of the second use of the verb makes the reader think harder about what is being said.
- "Military Intelligence is an [oxymoron](#)" is the use of direct [sarcasm](#) to suggest that the military would have no intelligence. This might be considered to be a [satire](#) and a terse [aphorism](#).
- "But he's a soldier, so he has to be an Einstein" is the use of sarcasm through [irony](#) for the same effect. The use of [hyperbole](#) by using the word *Einstein* calls attention to the ironic intent.

"An Einstein" is an example of [synecdoche](#), as it uses a particular name to represent a class of people: geniuses.

- "I had butterflies in my stomach" is a [metaphor](#), referring to my nervousness feeling as if there were flying insects in my stomach.

To say "it was like having some butterflies in my stomach" would be a [simile](#), because it uses the word *like* which is missing in the metaphor.