

# Syntactical Devices

## THE GREAT EIGHT

Rhetorical/literary device	Definition	Example
Anadiplosis	Repetition of the final words of a sentence or line at the beginning of the next.	"Fear leads to <i>anger</i> . <i>Anger</i> is just something that we can hide away from."
Anaphora	The repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of successive clauses.	" <i>Here comes</i> the wind. <i>Here comes</i> the fire. <i>Here come</i> the days we have been waiting for."
Antithesis	A contrast or opposition between two things.	"Colonial Africa and the Western World portrayed a distinct difference in culture."
Asyndeton	Omission of the conjunctions that ordinarily join coordinate words or clauses (as in "I came, I saw, I conquered").	"I went to the <i>store, park, library, school, church.</i> "
Epanalepsis	Repetition after intervening words.	" <i>The thought</i> of the stars that night brought back so many memories that it was, in the first, worth <i>the thought.</i> "
Epistrophe	The repetition of a word at the end of successive clauses or sentences.	"I want <i>the best</i> . I deserve <i>the best</i> . I think what is most important is to have <i>the best.</i> "
Polysyndeton	Using several conjunctions in close succession, especially where some might be omitted (as in "he ran and jumped and laughed for joy").	"I went to the <i>store, and park, and library, and school, and church.</i> "
Rhetorical Question	A statement that is formulated as a question but that is not supposed to be answered.	"What do I do from here?" "How do I cope?"

Some Additional Devices: **antimetabole**-a figure of speech in which a pair of words is repeated in reverse order, e.g. all for one and one for all; **parallelism**-the repetition of words or phrases that have similar grammatical structures, e. g. one for the money, two for the show; **chiasmus**-a figure of speech by which the order of the terms in the first of two parallel clauses is reversed in the second, e. g. poetry is the record of the best and happiest moments of the happiest and best minds. (If exact words are reversed, it is *antimetabole*.); and **zeugma**-a figure of speech by which one word refers to two others in the same sentence, e.g. John and his license expired last week.