Anastrophe: (Act I) is a figure of speech in which the syntactically correct order of subject, verb and object is changed. For example, the usual English order of subject, object and verb might be changed to object-subject-verb, as in saying "potatoes I like" to mean "I like potatoes."

Irony: (Act I) the expression of one's meaning by using language that normally signifies the opposite, typically for humorous or emphatic effect.

Example: "Don't go overboard with the gratitude,” he rejoined with heavy irony"

Remember there are three types of irony: Situational, Dramatic, and Verbal

Repetition: (Act I) Restating an idea using the same words.

Example: “The war is inevitable- and let it come! I repeat it, sir, let it come!”

Simile: (Act I) a figure of speech in which two unlike things are explicitly compared ( using “like” or “as”

Example: “She is like a rose.”

Hypophora: (Act I) a figure of speech in which the speaker poses a question and then answers the question.

Metaphor: a figure of speech that describes a subject by asserting that it is, on some point of comparison, the same as another otherwise unrelated object. It is a figure of speech comparing two unlike things without using either "like" or "as".

Example: •The snow is a white blanket.

•America is a melting pot.

•Her lovely voice was music to his ears.

Pun/ Double Entendre: a figure of speech or a particular way of wording that is devised to be understood in either of two ways, having a double meaning.

Example: •Miners refuse to work after death

•New obesity study looks for larger test group

•Children make nutritious snacks

•Criminals get nine months in violin case

Allusion: (Act II) a brief and indirect reference to a person, place, thing or idea of historical, cultural, literary or political significance. It does not describe in detail the person or thing to which it refers. It is just a passing comment and the writer expects the reader to possess enough knowledge to spot the allusion and grasp its importance in a text.

Example: “I was surprised his nose was not growing like Pinocchio’s.”

Hyperbole: It may be used to evoke strong feelings or to create a strong impression, but is not meant to be taken literally.

Example: “I am so hungry I could eat a horse.”

Rhetorical Question: Questions that are asked for effect rather than for answers.

Example: •Are you stupid?

•You didn't possibly think I would say yes to that did you?

Antithesis: A figure of speech in which an opposition or contrast of ideas is expressed by parallelism of words that are the opposites of, or strongly contrasted with, each other

Example: “hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all sins”

Parallelism: Repeating a grammatical structure

Example: •Whether in class, at work, or at home, Shasta was always busy.

•Flying is fast, comfortable, and safe.

Motif: a distinctive feature or dominant idea in an artistic or literary composition.

Example: \*We will discuss and identify some of these in class.\*

Equivocation: the use of ambiguous language to conceal the truth or to avoid committing oneself

Example: •"Equivocation is a common fallacy because it often is quite hard to notice that a shift in meaning has taken place. . . . The sugar industry, for instance, once advertised its product with the claim that "Sugar is an essential component of the body . . . a key material in all sorts of metabolic processes," neglecting the fact that it is glucose (blood sugar) not ordinary table sugar (sucrose) that is the vital nourishment."

Meiosis: a witty understatement that belittles or dismisses something or somebody, particularly by making use of terms that gives impression that something is less important than it is or it should be.

Example: When any heroine is finally asked out by her love interest and answers with a version of “Um, I guess that would be OK” meiosis is being used to heighten awareness of just how strongly she feels for her protagonist. When a group of friends walk out of a concert having spent the evening dancing and laughing it’s not unusual for one of the party to use meiosis humorously and say “it was OK I guess”.

Analogy: a similarity between like features of two things, on which a comparison may be based

Example: •You are as annoying as nails on a chalkboard.

•I am going to be toast when I get home.

Personification: Giving an inanimate object, or something not human, human like qualities.

Example: The leaves danced as the wind blew.

Metonymy: a figure of speech in which a thing or concept is called not by its own name but rather by the name of something associated in meaning with that thing or concept. For instance, "Wall Street" is often used metonymously to describe the U.S. financial and corporate sector, while "Hollywood" is used as a metonym for the U.S. film industry because of the fame and cultural identity of Hollywood, a district of the city of Los Angeles, California, as the historical center of film studios and film stars. The national capital is often used to represent the government or monarchy of a country, such as "Washington" for United States government or "Buckingham Palace" for the monarchy of the United Kingdom.

Restatement: Expressing the same ideas using different words

Example: “We can not dedicate- we can not consecrate- we can not hallow-“

Anaphora: Repetition of the same word or group of words at the beginning os successive sentences, clauses, or phrases.

Example: “We shall go on to the end, we shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans…”