

## FIGURES OF SPEECH

प्रश्न का स्वरूप एवं अंक विभाजन

इस प्रकरण से परीक्षा में 4 अंकों का एक प्रश्न पूछा जाएगा, जिसके दो भाग होंगे—

- (a) Define one of the given figures of speech.
- (b) Give two examples of such figures of speech.

**Q. 7.** Define one of the following figures of speech and give two examples : 2 + 2 = 4 (2019)

- (a) Hyperbole
- (b) Metaphor
- (c) Personification.

**Ans. Personification :** It is a figure of speech in which inanimate or lifeless objects and abstract ideas are spoken of as having life and intelligence.

### Examples of this Figure of Speech

- (i) Death lays his icy hand on everyone.
- (ii) The sea that bares her bosom to the moon.

**नोट**—नीचे figures of speech की परिभाषाएँ एवं उनके उदाहरण दिए गए हैं, इनको ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़िए और याद कीजिए—

### (i) SIMILE (2019, 2020 YB, ZW)

**Definition :** In a Simile a comparison is made between two objects of different kinds which have, however, at least one point in common. A Simile is introduced by such words as *like, as, so*.

#### Examples :

- (i) She is as firm as a rock.
- (ii) So like a shattered column lay the king.
- (iii) She accepted it as the kind cruelty of the surgeon's knife.
- (iv) She shall be sportive as the fawn.
- (v) I wandered lonely as a cloud.
- (vi) She skims like a bird on the foam of a stream.
- (vii) The city's voice itself soft like Solitude's.
- (viii) Life is as tedious as a twice-told tale.
- (ix) I see the waves upon the shore, like light dissolved in star-showers thrown.
- (x) She falls like a tear from the eyes of a bride.
- (xi) She hangs like a star in the dew of our song.
- (xii) We hear her along like a pearl on a string.
- (xiii) It droppeth as the gentle rain from the heaven.
- (xiv) She is lovely like a rose.
- (xv) ..... his heart, which kept good time,  
Beats like an ill-played drum-skin, quick and slow.
- (xvi) Gaily, O gaily, we glide and we sing,  
We bear her along like a pearl on a string.
- (xvii) Look like the innocent flower.
- (xviii) My love is like a red, red rose.
- (xix) The quality of mercy is not strained  
It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven.

### (ii) METAPHOR (2019, 2020 YA, ZV, Z)

**Definition :** A Metaphor is an implied Simile. In a Metaphor two things of the different kinds are compared but words of comparison *'like', 'so', 'as'* are not used at all.

#### Examples :

- (i) Infancy is the dawn of life.
- (ii) Love is the spice of life.
- (iii) Life is a dream.
- (iv) Integrity is the backbone of character.
- (v) Life is a tale told by an idiot.
- (vi) The camel is the ship of the desert.
- (vii) She is the pillar of the state.
- (viii) I see a lily on thy brow.  
With anguish moist and fever dew.
- (ix) Experience is the best teacher.
- (x) Life is bitter sweet.
- (xi) He is the pillar of the administration.
- (xii) Life is but a walking shadow.
- (xiii) Revenge is a kind of wild justice.
- (xiv) She is a fen of stagnant water.
- (xv) Hope is the poor man's bread.
- (xvi) Kalidas is the Shakespeare of India.

### (iii) PERSONIFICATION

(2019, 2020 YB, Z)

**Definition :** By this figure we give intelligence and personality to inanimate things.

#### Examples :

- (i) "How far that little candle throws its beams!  
So shines a good deed in a naughty world."
- (ii) Truth sits upon the lips of dying men.
- (iii) Fair science frowned not on his humble birth.  
And melancholy marked him for her own.
- (iv) Laughter holds both her sides.
- (v) The moon veiled her face.
- (vi) The cloud puts forth its deluge straight  
When lightning cleaves its breast.
- (vii) Opportunity knocks at the door but once.
- (viii) The guns of hunters snap and crack.
- (ix) Sunflowers nod in the hot fields  
And apple buds laugh into blossom.
- (x) Let not ambition mock their useful toil.
- (xi) The daisy smiled at the morning sun.
- (xii) But patience, to prevent that murmur, soon replies



- (xiii) Hear with equal love combined  
Kindle never-dying fires.
- (xiv) Love is blind.
- (xv) The ship has weather'd every rack.
- (xvi) Death lays his icy hands on kings.
- (xvii) Anxiety is sitting on her face.
- (xviii) Authority forgets a dying king.
- (xix) Whose conscience is his strong retreat.

**(iv) APOSTROPHE****(2019, 2020 ZZ)**

**Definition :** An Apostrophe is direct address to the dead, to the absent, or to a personified object or idea.

**Examples :**

- (i) Ah, sweet content! where is thy mild abode ?
- (ii) Little lamb, who made thee ?  
Dost thou know who made thee ?
- (iii) Exult, O shores ! and ring O bells !
- (iv) Roll on, thou deep and dark blue ocean-roll !
- (v) Milton, thou shouldst be living at this hour.
- (vi) O mighty Caesar ! Dost thou lie so low ?
- (vii) O Julius Caesar ! Thou are mighty yet.
- (viii) O Captain! my Captain ! our fearful trip is done.
- (ix) Frailty thy name is woman!
- (x) Life ! I know not what thou art.
- (xi) Break, break, break,  
On thy cold grey stones, O Sea!
- (xii) O world! O life! O time!  
On whose last steps I climb.

**(v) OXYMORON****(2019, 2020 YB, ZV, ZX, ZZ)**

**Definition :** In this figure two contradictory qualities are predicted at once of the same thing.

**Examples :**

- (i) Life is bitter sweet.
- (ii) He is an innocent criminal.
- (iii) This is an open secret.
- (iv) Fair is foul and foul is fair.
- (v) My friend is regularly irregular.
- (vi) And having nothing, he hath all.
- (vii) But still fought on, nor knew that he was dead.
- (viii) Great lord of all things yet a prey to all.
- (ix) Our sweetest songs are those that tell of saddest thoughts.
- (x) James I was the wisest fool.
- (xi) "Lord of himself, though not of lands  
And having nothing, he hath all."
- (xii) The more haste, the less speed

- (xiii) There is friendly animosity between Hari and Shyam.

**(vi) HYPERBOLE****(2019, 2020 YA, ZV, ZW)**

**Definition :** By this figure things are represented as greater or lesser, better or worse, than they really are.

**Examples :**

- (i) All the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand.
- (ii) The waves rose mountains high.
- (iii) They build the nation's pillars deep.  
And lift them to the sky.
- (iv) Ten thousand saw I at a glance.
- (v) Rivers of blood flowed in the battle.
- (vi) As many farewells as there are stars in heaven.
- (vii) They were swifter than eagles and stronger than lions.
- (viii) A lovelier flower on earth was never sown.
- (ix) Belinda smiled and all the world was gay.
- (x) And out of joy  
His heart jumped miles high.
- (xi) His fame is rising to the skies.
- (xii) Why, man, if the river were dry, I am able to fill it with tears.
- (xiii) There is dagger in thy words.
- (xiv) The sea that bares her bosom to the moon
- (xv) She wept oceans of tears.
- (xvi) As many farewells as there be stars in heaven.

**(vii) ONOMATOPOEIA****(2019, 2020 YA, ZW, ZZ)**

**Definition :** By this figure the sound of the words is made to suggest or echo the sense.

**Examples :**

- (i) I chatter, chatter as I flow  
To join the brimming river.
- (ii) And beauty born of murmuring sound  
Shall pass into her face.
- (iii) I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore.
- (iv) Rend with tremendous sound your ears as under with  
gun, drum, trumpet, blunderbuss, and thunder.
- (v) The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,  
The lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea.
- (vi) The moan of doves in immemorial elms  
And murmuring of innumerable bees.
- (vii) Grunt, grunt goes the hog.
- (viii) The snakes are hissing and the bees are buzzing.
- (ix) The murmurous haunt of flies on summer eves.
- (x) Slow crawling of a wounded snake.