

Adding Depth to Your Writing: Literary Devices

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How to Add Depth to Your Writing

- Use Literary Devices
 - **Anthropomorphism** (used in fairy tales and fables)
 - Attributes human characteristics to non-human entities (i.e. animals, plants, inanimate objects like stars or machines)
 - Example: The cat frowned at the humored dog.
 - They display literal human traits and are capable of human behavior
 - **Personification** (used in poetry and literature to add emotional depth)
 - Attributes human characteristics to abstract ideas, natural phenomena, or inanimate objects in a figurative manner
 - Example: The temperamental faulty engine strained against the cruel harsh wind. (The descriptions are meant to be metaphorical.)
 - **Metaphor** (used to paint a picture—fast or infuse uncertainty)
 - Uses figure of speech that directly compares one thing to another for rhetorical effect (effect use of words)
 - Example 1: The bare branches were elongated fingers reaching for the heavens.
 - Example 2: The child barked disgust at a bully. (implied metaphor)
 - **Simile**
 - A type of metaphor that uses “like” or “as”
 - Example 1: The woman danced around like a cloud in a stormy sky.
 - Example 2: The warrior lunged as if he were a lion.

Useful Links

- [Anthropomorphism vs. Personification: What’s the Difference? - 2024 - MasterClass](#)
- [What Is a Metaphor? Definition and Examples of Metaphor in Literature - 2024 - MasterClass](#)