

教 案

周 次	第 周, 第 次课	授课时间	年 月 日
授课章节	Part Two Diction: Figures of Speech (1)		
本(章)节 授课方式	课堂讲授 (√) 实践课 ()	教学时数	2
授 课 要 点	本 (章) 节 教 学 目 标	<p style="text-align: center;">Students should know the different kinds of figures of speech and their functions.</p>	
	教 学 重 点 和 难 点	<p>Key Points: The use of simile, metaphor, personification</p> <p>Difficult Points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Comparison between metaphor and metonym 2. Comparison between metonymy and synecdoche 	
思 考 题 或 作 业	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review what we have discussed today. 2. Write a paragraph about 80 words, in which you should use at least 5 figures of speech we have discussed this time. 		

教学内容与组织安排

Part Two Diction: Figures of Speech (1)

Teaching Focus: Figures of speech

Time Allotment: Lead-in	3 minutes
Figures of Speech	70 minutes
Summary and Practice	15 minutes
Assignment	2 minutes

Teaching Procedures:

I. Lead-in (3 min)

Activity: The teacher asks some of the students to list the figures of speech they have learned and make sentences with simile and metaphor.

Q: *Can you list any other figures of speech?*

Why should we use figures of speech in our writing?

II. Figures of Speech (70 min)

Words used in their original meanings are used literally, while words used in extended meanings for the purpose of making comparisons or calling up pictures in the reader's or listener's mind are used figuratively.

e.g. a colorful garden / a colorful career / a colorful life

There are various ways of using words figuratively. They are called figures of speech.

1. Simile

It's a comparison between two distinctly different things and the comparison is indicated by the word *as* or *like*:

O my love's *like* a red, red rose.

--- Robert Burns

That man can't be trusted. He's *as* slippery *as* an eel.

The old man's hair is *as* white *as* snow.

2. Metaphor

It is the use of a word which originally denotes one thing to refer to another with a similar quality.

It's also comparison, but the comparison is implied, **not** expressed with the word *as* or *like*.

cf. O my love's like a red, red rose. / O my love's red, red rose.

Metaphors are used not only after verb to be, and not only nouns can be used metaphorically. Study the following examples:

The *picture* of those poor people's lives was *carved* so sharply in his heart that he could never forget it.

There was a *medieval* magnificence about the big dining-hall.

The street *faded* into a country road with *straggling* houses by it.

Activity: ask the students to compare simile with metaphor.

Simile: A. It is a figure of speech which makes a comparison between two unlike elements having at least one quality or characteristic (特性) in common.

B. To make the comparison, words like **as, as...as, as if (though) and like** are used to transfer the quality we associate with one to the other.

For example: As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.

“How like the winter hath my absence been” or “So are you to my thoughts as food to life” (Shakespeare). “我的离开好象是冬天来临” 或 “你对我的思想就象食物对于生命一样重要” (莎士比亚)

He jumped as if he had been stung. (他像被蜇了似的跳了起来。)

Childhood is like a swiftly passing dream. (童年就像一场疾逝的梦。)

Metaphor: A. It is like a simile, also makes a comparison between two unlike elements.

B. unlike a simile, this comparison is implied rather than stated.

For example: He has a heart of stone. (他有一颗铁石心肠。)

The world is a stage. (世界是一个大舞台。)

“a sea of troubles” (忧愁之海)

“All the world’s a stage” (Shakespeare) (整个世界一台戏——莎士比亚)

Note: A metaphor or a simile has to be fresh to be effective.

Exercise: Identify the similes and metaphors in the following. Then convert the similes into metaphors, and expand the metaphors into similes.

- e.g. He fought like a lion in the battle. (S) He was a lion in the battle. (M)
- He is a wolf in sheep's clothing.
 - He is as stupid as an ass.
 - The parks are the lungs of our city.
 - His voice sounded like thunder in that room.
 - The machine-gun shot down the enemy like a mower cutting down grass.
 - Her manner was icy.
 - Slimy canals crept like green snakes beside the road.

3. Personification

It is to treat a thing or an idea as if it were human or had human qualities.

Youth is hot and bold,

Age is weak and cold,

Youth is wild, and Age is tame.

--- William Shakespeare

The match will soon be over and defeat is *staring* us in the face.

This time fate was *smiling* to him.

Activity:

1. Underline the idea, object, animal being personified and circle what they are doing that makes it an example of personification.

- The sun danced across the sky on the hot summer day.

- b. The big full moon guided me through the forest.
- c. The mountain listened to the rumbles beneath its surface.
- d. As the rain pounded to the ground, everyone ran for cover.
- e. The old man sat at the edge of the sea as the waves crashed on the shore.
- f. The old car groaned as it made its way down the long open road.

2. Choose a word from List B or another word that names an action. Write this word next to the word from List A.

List A	List B
sun	tells
moon	shows
Stars	reminds
sky	teaches
sea	listens
stone	remembers
night	brings
mountain	looks
dawn	dances
morning	dreams
	guides
	takes

4. Metonymy (转喻)

It is substituting the name of one thing for that of another with which it is closely associated.

Sword and *cross* in hand, the European conquerors fell upon the Americas.

When the war was over, he laid down the *sword* and took up the *pen*.

His *purse* would not allow him that luxury.

Metonymy can be derived from various sources ---from names of persons, from animals, professions, locations or place names, etc.

Exercise: Which of the sentences or phrases below are metaphors or metonyms?

- a. His hands were vine shoots. (metaphor)
- b. He took to the bottle after his wife's death. (metonym)
- c. There was not a soul in the street. (metonym)
- d. Life is not a bed of roses. (metaphor)
- e. The dinner cost us twenty pounds per head. (metonym)
- f. Would you like a Scotch? (metonym)

5. Synecdoche (举隅,提喻)

When a part is substituted for the whole or the whole is substituted for a part, synecdoche is applied:

The farms were short of *hands* during the harvest season.

He had to earn his daily *bread* by doing odd jobs.

Germany beat *Argentina* 2 to 1 in this exciting football match.

The poor *creature* could no longer endure her sufferings.

***Six types of synecdoche.**

***Compare metonymy and synecdoche: The former is substitution of names, while the latter is substitution for the whole or a part.**

6. Euphemism

Discussion: a. What is Euphemism?

b. What are the motives for euphemizing?

c. For what particular topics are euphemism often used?

Euphemism is the substitution of a mild or vague expression for a harsh or unpleasant one.

to die to pass away, to leave us; one's heart has stopped beating

old people senior citizens

mad emotionally disturbed

dustmen sanitation worker

lavatory bathroom, men's (women's) room

invasion, raid military action

***Euphemism and culture.**

III. Summary and Practice (15 min)

1. Summary

2. Practice

Exercise 1 Make sentences that vividly described each item below, using simile, metaphor and personification. The first one has been done as an example.

1) Rain: The rain hissed on the hot cabin roof, then slithered down the window in streams like transparent snake.

2) A river

3) an old car

4) the moon

5) snow

Exercise 2 Make sentences that explain your views on the following hard-to-define concepts, using simile, metaphor and personification. The first one has been done as an example.

1) Life: Life is a rosebush growing in my garden, full of thorns but fragrant and lovely.

2) love

3) happiness

4) Fear

5) hate

IV. Assignment (2 min)

1. Review what we have discussed today.

2. Write a paragraph about 80 words, in which you should use at least 5 figures of speech we have discussed this time.