

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 (2)		
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>Students should know the different kinds of figures of speech and their functions.</p>	
	教 学 重 点 和 难 点	<p>Key Points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Irony 2. Overstatement and understatement <p>Difficult Points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transferred Epithet 2. Oxymoron 3. Pun 	
思 考 题 或 作 业			

教学内容与组织安排

Part Two Diction: Figures of Speech (2)

Teaching Focus: Figures of speech

Time Allotment:	Review	5 minutes
	Figures of Speech	60 minutes
	Summary and Practice	15 minutes
	Time for Questions	7 minutes
	Assignment	3 minutes

Teaching Procedures:

I. Review (5 min)

The teacher asks the students to list the figures of speech learned in the previous lecture and make sentences with some of them.

II. Figures of Speech (60 min)

1. Irony (反语)

It is the use of words which are clearly opposite to what is meant, in order to achieve a special effect.

e.g. "What fine weather for an outing!"

There are three kinds of irony.

1). verbal irony (言语反讽): It is used when an author says one thing and means something else.

E.g. Blessed are the young, for they shall inherit the national debt. (年轻人有福了, 因为他们将继承国债。)

It is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife. (The first sentence of the famous works *Pride and Prejudice*)

2). dramatic irony 戏剧性讽示(或讽刺): It is used when an audience perceives something that a character in the literature does not know. [also called tragic irony]

For example, in *Romeo and Juliet* by Shakespeare, Romeo kills himself after he believes that Juliet is dead. But we readers know she doesn't die.

3). irony of situation (情景反讽): It is a discrepancy between the expected result and actual results.

For example, a famous short story *The Gift of the Magi* written by O. Henry .

2. Overstatement(夸张) and understatement (含蓄陈述)

In **overstatement (hyperbole)** the diction exaggerates the subject; Hyperbole is the deliberate use of overstatement or exaggeration to achieve emphasis.

Effective hyperbole, however, is more than just to emphasize something in exaggerated terms.

In the hands of experienced writers it can be used to achieve various literary effects, such as intensifying emotion, poking fun and ridiculing. e.g. a river of tears (泪河), a mountain of coal (煤山), oceans of people (人海).

e.g. She is **dying** to know what job has been assigned her.

I could sleep for a year. (我能睡一年)
This book weighs a ton. (这书有一吨重)
He almost died laughing.

Exercise: Figure out the hyperboles in the following sentences and translate the sentences into Chinese.

- a. One father is more than **a hundred schoolmasters**. (George Herbert) (一个父亲的作用大于 100 个教师。)
- b. It's a **crime** to stay inside on such a beautiful day. (今天阳光明媚，躲在家中实在太遗憾了。)
- c. **A drop** of ink may make **a million** think. (George G Byron) (一滴墨水写成的文字可让千万人思索。)

Note: Hyperbole is often confused with a simile or a metaphor because it often compares two objects. The difference is a hyperbole is an exaggeration.

2) **Understatement** is a figure of speech which deliberately expresses an idea too weakly(保守的陈述). It is used to play down(不重视) or to minimize the importance of something. Understatement, as the word implies, is the opposite of hyperbole, or overstatement.

Understatement was divided into Litotes and Meiosis. (间接肯定法和曲言法)

Litotes is understatement by use of negatives to express the contrary in order to give emphasis.(以反说代替正说)

- e.g. She was not without ambition. (She is quite ambitious.)
This problem is not above us. (We can solve this problem.)

Meiosis is merely understatement without the use of negatives.

- e.g. Mr. Li is something of a philosopher. (李先生略有哲学家的深度.)

I have to have this operation. It isn't very serious. I have this tiny little tumor on the brain.

Q: What is the difference between euphemism and understatement?

Exercise: Rewrite the following sentences in plain language.

- a. I was not a little surprised at the news.
- b. He is no fool, I should say.
- c. He is no mean opponent in the coming debate.
- d. Man is not born to die.
- e. It's no easy matter to repair that machine.

3. Transferred Epithet (转类形容词, 移位修饰)

An epithet is an adjective or descriptive phrase that serves to characterize somebody or something.

A transferred epithet is, as its name implies, a figure of speech where an epithet (an adjective or descriptive phrase) is transferred from the noun it should rightly modify to another to which it does not really belong.

Generally, the epithet is transferred from a person to a thing or idea.

She was so worried about her son that she spent several *sleepless* nights.

In his *quiet* laziness he suddenly remembered that strange word.

The assistant kept a *respectful* distance from his boss when they were walking in the corridor.

Exercise: Where is transferred epithet?

- There was a short, thoughtful silence. (出现了一阵短暂的、令人沉思的寂静。)
- The old man put a reassuring hand on my shoulder. (老人把一只令人安心的手放在我的肩膀上。)
- He closed his busy life at the age of sixty. (在六十岁时他结束了他那忙碌的一生。)
- This is the cheapest market in this country. (这是这个国家最便宜的市场了。)
- The doctor's face expressed a kind of doubting admiration. (医生的脸上流露出钦佩而又带有疑惑的神情。)

4. Oxymoron (矛盾修饰法)

Oxymoron is a rhetorical figure in which incongruous or contradictory terms are combined, as in *a deafening silence* and *a mournful optimist*.

The coach had to be *cruel* to be *kind* to his trainees.

When the news of the failure came, all his friends said that it was a *victorious defeat*.

The president was *conspicuously absent* on that occasion.

She read the long-awaited letter with a *tearful smile*.

5. Alliteration (头韵)

It refers to the appearance of the same initial consonant sound in two or more words.

Wherefore feed, and clothe, and save,

From the cradle to the grave,

Those ungrateful *drones* who would

Drain you sweat --- nay, *drink* your blood?

--- Percy Bysshe Shelley

I see also the *dull*, *dripped*, docile, brutish masses of the Hun soldiery plodding on like a swarm of crawling locusts.

6. Pun (双关语)

A **pun**, or **paronomasia**, is a form of word play that deliberately exploits ambiguity between similar-sounding words for humorous or rhetorical effect.

It is a play on words, or rather a play on the form and meaning of words. Pun: Pun For instance, a cannon-ball took off his legs, so he laid down his arms. (Here "arms" has two meanings: a person's body; weapons carried by a soldier.)

III. Summary and Practice (15 min)

Summary

Finish Task 6 and 7 on page 21

IV. Time for Questions (7 min)

Give the students a chance to raise questions about the use of figures of speech discussed in the two lectures.

V. Assignment (3 min)

1. Review what we have discussed today.
2. Write a story in which you should try your best to use as many figures of speech as possible.