

Literary Devices: General Guidelines

- You must write these with precision and depth of analysis.
- You must adhere to standard guidelines for written English, including citing your sources using MLA format.
- Review the following in order to ensure that you score the most points on your entries.

1. CITATION:

- ✓ Always include the page number when your source is a novel, the line number if it is a poem, and the act/scene/line number if it is a play. You must include the author and title of the piece within your discussion.
- ✓ Put quotation marks around the entire quote, but not around the citation, and put the period outside of the citation.
- ✓ Always imbed your quotes with your function discussion, making sure that the sentence is written correctly. If you need to change the case of a letter, do so by using brackets.
- ✓ Only use ellipses when omitting words from the middle of a quote, not at the beginning or the end of a quote.

EXAMPLES

This is what your example quote should look like. Notice the correct citation, and the brackets around the letter with the case change

“[T]he forest stood up spectrally in the moonlight” (95).

This is how that same quote could be imbedded in the function discussion. The author (Conrad) and the title of the work (*Heart of Darkness*) would have already been mentioned in the discussion.

The descriptions of nature often belie the sinister quality Marlow attributes to the natural world. At one point, he observes that “the forest stood up spectrally in the moonlight” (95).

2. **FUNCTION DISCUSSION:** Remember to look at the three “C’s” in mind when you write your function discussion. Submissions that do not discuss each of these areas will not receive full credit.
3. **REVISIONS:** Please staple your original device to the back of the revision and write “Revision” on your new version.
4. **CONVENTIONS:** I will not grade a device that does not cite the quote properly (see #1 above for examples). If I find more than one error, it will be returned without a grade. You will need to find the error(s), fix it(them) and resubmit the entry as if it were a revision.
5. **USING TEXTUAL EXAMPLES:** You must have at least 1 textual example in your function discussion in order to earn that point.
6. **POINT TOTALS:** Each literary device entry is worth 5 points, which is broken down this way:
 - ✓ 1 point for the correct definition of the device.
 - ✓ 1 point for the example, provided it is an example of the device.
 - ✓ 3 points for the function discussion (1 for context, 1 for concept, 1 for connection)
7. **GRADING:**
 - ✓ **REV** = There was one (or more) error(s) in citation of conventions. I will not read a device that has conventional errors or is cited improperly. If a student gets “Rev” at the top, then that student knows that he or she must find and then fix the errors. They must then staple the revision to the original, highlight the changes on the revision, and submit them together.
 - ✓ **0** = The device or example was not correct. This is different from a revision because it signals to the student that the device and the example do not match, or that the definition is incorrect. They need to find out what the problem is in order to fix it.
 - ✓ **2** = Device and example were correct, but the function discussion was not adequate.
 - ✓ **3-4** = Device and example were correct, but only 1 or 2 or the 3 points required in the function discussion were addressed. Students must figure out which point(s) is/are missing and revise the submission.
 - ✓ **5** = BRAVO! 😊