

Literary Devices – 1984 by George Orwell

Complete the attached table. Identify a literary device in column 1. In column 2, give an example of this literary device from the text.

Some literary devices to look for:

Allusion – a reference to something the author expects the reader to be familiar with

e.g. - “Our world changed on 9/11.”

There is no need to explain the event in detail as most readers understand the reference.

Foreshadowing – a hint within the text of what is to come

e.g. – “These violent delights have violent ends...Therefore, love moderately.”

This quote of Friar Lawrence from *Romeo and Juliet* foreshadows death in the end.

Irony – the reverse of what is expected or the opposite of a literal meaning.

e.g. – a fire station burns down

The last thing a person would expect to burn would be a fire station.

Metaphor/Simile – A comparison of unlike things based on a similarity. A simile uses “like” or “as” to make the comparison.

e.g. – “The sun is a big beach ball in the sky.”

The two things are quite different, but there is a similarity.

Symbolism – using an object as a representation of something larger or less concrete.

e.g. – “The senator is a dove when it comes to foreign policy.”

The dove is often used as a symbol of peace or pacifism. The senator would be a pacifist.

As you read through *1984*, find at least one example for each literary device. Show a total of ten examples for a 100%. For extra credit, you may find five additional examples, up to a total of fifteen examples.

Literary Device	Example from text
Example: Allusion	<p>“He would tie her naked to a stake and shoot her full of arrows like Saint Sebastian.”</p> <p>This is an allusion to a Christian saint who was persecuted by the Roman emperor for converting Roman soldiers to Christianity.</p>
Allusion	
Foreshadowing	
Irony	
Metaphor/Simile	
Symbolism	

