RHETORICAL DEVICES PROJECT - STUDENT REQUIREMENTS
AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

Overview
Figurative language is the generic term for any artful deviation from the ordinary mode of speaking or writing. It is what makes up a writer’s style – how he or she uses language. The general thinking is that we are more likely to be persuaded by rhetoric that is interesting, even artful, rather than mundane. When John F. Kennedy said, “Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country” (an example of anastrophe), it was more interesting – and more persuasive – than the simpler, “Don’t be selfish.” Indeed, politicians and experts use these devices to achieve their desired effect on the reader or listener nearly every time they speak. The stylistic elements in a piece of writing work to produce a desired effect related to the text’s (and author’s) purpose, and thus reveals the rhetorical situation.

Biweekly, each student in the course will be responsible for teaching a 15-20 minute presentation to the class on an assigned rhetorical device. The presentation must utilize multimedia, creativity, and various usage examples. In addition, the student must provide a Google Presentation (uploaded to the class Google folder) for each member of the class on the rhetorical device project. The Google Presentations will form a study pack for the AP test in May. Students will be responsible for taking notes in their class notebooks.

In classical rhetoric, figures of speech are divided into two main groups:
Schemes — Deviation from the ordinary pattern or arrangement of words (transference of order).
Tropes — Deviation from the ordinary and principal meaning of a word (transference of meaning).

Requirements
● Time Length – 15-20 minutes
● Create a Google Presentation which MUST include: (Upload to class Google folder)
  o Definition
  o Examples
  o Illustrations
  o Tips or ways to remember the device
  o Video clip showing the device used in a movie, tv show, or music
  o Cold Read Example
● Introduction – MUST begin with an interesting/engaging start (movie clip, activity, etc) HOOK your audience…do not begin with “This is my device…” Be original!
● Content – teach the class about the actual rhetorical device
  o Must use a game/activity to engage the class at some point in your presentation!
● Apply the device to a “cold read” (a poem, excerpt from an article, short essay, etc.) you bring into class
  o Pass out a hard copy of the “cold read” to all students
  o Students will read the “cold read”
  o Lead the students in finding the device and its impact on the piece as a whole
  o Lead a discussion about how the device is essential to the purpose of the piece as a whole
● Presentation MUST utilize multimedia (video, Google Slides, etc.)
● Must have an “assessment” of the learning - get creative!
● Upload all presentation materials on the class Google folder
● All handouts/uploads must be submitted to the teacher no later than the Wednesday before your Friday presentation.

Total Points: 100 in 90%
**Common Schemes** — Deviation from the ordinary pattern or arrangement of words (transference of order).

Schemes of Construction — **Schemes of Balance**

1. Parallelism
2. Antithesis

Schemes of unusual or inverted word order

3. Anastrophe (an-ASS-tra-fee)

Schemes of Omission

4. Ellipsis

Schemes of Repetition

5. Alliteration
6. Assonance
7. Anaphora
8. Epistrophe
9. Epanalepsis (eh-puh-nuh-LEAP-siss)
10. Anadiplosis (an-uh-dih-PLO-sis)
11. Antimetabole (an-tee-meh-TA-boe-lee)
12. Chiasmus (ki-AS-mus)

**Common Tropes** — Deviation from the ordinary and principal meaning of a word (transference of meaning).

13. Synecdoche (sih-NECK-duh-kee)
14. Metonymy (me-TON-y-my)
15. Antanaclasis (AN-ta-na-CLA-sis)
16. Litotes (LI-tuh-tees OR lie-TOE-tees)
17. Rhetorical question
18. Paradox

Other Literary Analysis Terms useful for the AP English Language Test
19. allegory
20. allusion
21. antecedent
22. aphorism
23. euphemism
24. invective
25. oxymoron
26. pedantic
27. point of view
28. satire
29. syllogism
30. synesthesia