**LITERATURE SS1 FIRST TERM**

**FIGURATIVE EXPRESSIONS|DEVICE:**

A figure of speech is a peculiar use of imagination to achieve a cosmetic result. Words are used out of their literary meaning. Figures of speech could be used to decorate a piece of writing and as well enlarge, broaden, compress or condense statements, descriptions or ideas. However, they are classified in diverse forms such as:

**FIGURES OF SIMILARITY OR COMPARISON AND SOUND**

1. Figures of comparison includes
2. **SIMILE:** This is a figure of speech that shows indirect comparison of one thing with another. The two things compared have one common feature. It is comparison with use of “like” or “as”, for example,
3. Uche eats like a dog
4. He looks as ugly as his father
5. She is as gentle as a dove
6. Emmanuel talks like a parrot.
7. **METAPHOR:** It is a figure of speech that shows a direct comparison of one object with another, without the use of “like” or “as”. for Example:
8. She has a heart of stone
9. Emeka is a Lion
10. Uju is a dog

Figures of Sound includes:

Alliteration: This is the repetition of same consonant sounds. The sounds are often noticed at the beginning of words. Examples are:

Flourishing Flowers\f \

Grass to grace ground \g \

Assonance: This is the repetition of the same vowel sounds.lt is mostly realized at the middle as the case may be. examples are:

The moon shone into the room

I saw a dead devil

Onomatopea: This is the use of words that imitate or echo sounds. Examples are:

The Jingle of the bell

Shower of rain

The clatter of the typewriter.

Refrain:This takes the form of a chorus in a song or poem.Refrain repeats one or more phrases or lines of a poem usually at the end of a poetic line.

FIGURES OF IMAGINATION AND EMPHASIS

Hyperbole: This is a figure of speech that exaggerates the actual situation being represented. It is also called an overstatement. Examples are:

She promised to love him a million times

Ada is fatter than a two storey building ,etc.

Personification: It means giving or attributing human qualities to inanimate objects or ideas. Examples;

The wind whispered into my ears

The sun is walking all over the globe etc.

Apostrophe: This a figure of speech whereby a person or an object that is not present is addressed as if he is present listening .eg :Death you have done your worst to mankind.

Irony: This is the use of words that are purely opposite to the intended meaning. it states a contrary expression, hoping that the real meaning will be understood by the audience.

Repetition:It is simply the repetition or re-occurrence of words for emphasis sake, eg: Truly truly ,he is my brother etc.

Rhetorical question: These are questions that do not require an answer .eg : who can battle with the lord .etc

Allusion: This an act of making refererence to either history, events, person ,elements of culture, while speaking about another thing. we have two types of allusion namely: classical and biblical allusion.

FIGURES OF ASSOCIATION OR TRANSFER OF QUALITY

Euphemism :It is a way of expressing an unpleasant thing in a mild or pleasant form. Offensive feelings are clothed with palatable expressions. For instance referring to the toilet as rest room or Convenience .other examples are: She took in, Emeka kicked the bucket etc.

Paradox: This is a statement which looks untrue or false but contains some elements of truth if inwardly examined .eg: givers never lack.

Sarcasm: This a kind of painful remark meant to hurt somebody in disguise of praising him.It is a type of Irony.eg Ada looks beautiful after the beating ,etc.

Synedoche: This is the use of a part to represent the whole or the whole to represent a part .eg: All hands on deck.etc.

Oxymoron:This is side by side placing of two words with contradicting meanings.eg Ada’s pregnancy is an open secret etc.

Metonymy: It is a representation of something with object associated or related to it, the pulpit should be respected etc.

Epigram: This is a short and witty statement that has a philosophical meaning eg Nothing is permanent but change.

Antithesis: This is the use of contrastive words to express an idea.eg Pennywise, pound foolish, To err is human ,to forgive is divine etc.

Pun: This is a play on words that are similar in sound and at times spelling but differs in meaning ,eg better be late than the late.etc.

Symbolism: It is an image or a word that stands for something other than its literary meaning, eg

cross stands for suffering or Christianity

Crown is a symbol of kingship.

UNSEEN PROSE AND POETRY

This can be described as those poems and prose passages which the examiners have deliberately not included in the list of prescribed texts, so that students will not have had a fore knowledge of them .The authentic appreciation ability of the students is tested.

Such works will require students to display the literary skills and the familiarity with literary terms and principles, which are expected to have learnt in the process of their training as students of literature.

INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN POETRY

BLACK WOMAN BY LEOPOLD SEDAR SENGHOR.

Leave 35 lines for copying of the poem.

BRIEF INTRODUCTION OF THE POEM

The poem BLACK WOMAN as a poetic piece was written when Senghor was in exile in France, using the poem as a revolutionary document, the poet poetically celebrates the black body of an African woman which was unnoticed both in Literature and Art. As a negritude poem, it is an exquisite ode to any black woman, daughter or sister aimed at promoting the concept of Black womanhood.

POEM ANALYSIS

In the first stanza of the poem, the poet expresses his profound love adoration for the black woman starting from her colour which is life (line 2)

The poet also celebrates the gentleness and ability of the black woman to give and sustain life. The poet admits that he is not only born by the black woman, but also bred and nurtured by her.

AFRICA has been personified as a maternal figure in whose shadow the poet has grown up to age until he comes to the PROMISED LAND.

In stanza two the poet describes the black woman as a lover with her skin compared to a ripened fruit. Also the beauty of the black woman is compared to the savannah stretching to clear horizon. Her beauty strikes like the flash of eagle.

With this type of description attributed to the black woman, the poet has succeeded in educating both the whites and the blacks that words like black, dark, naked etc that are usually associated with black race do not connote evil, rather, they are imbued with attraction.

In stanza three, the black is compared to everything that is elegant, graceful, and ornamental. To the poet, the black woman is almost a goddess.

Her beautiful skin is as smooth beautiful and well of oil as that of an athlete or the prince of Mali.

Lastly, the poet in the last stanza extols the beauty of the African woman before the colonial invasion. The poet in his philosophical view point decide to immortalize the beauty of the African woman”the form that I fix in the external”.

THEMES: So many central ideas are discussed in the poem, African woman. They include:

Theme of beauty.

Theme of love

Theme of time

Theme of inevitability of death to mortals

Africa, a land of promise for Africans, among others.

POETIC DEVICES| FIGURES OF SPEECH

So many poetic devices and figures of speech are deployed by Senghor in his poem AFRICAN WOMAN, some of which includes:

Metaphor, simile, Allusion, personification, alliteration, assonance etc

DICTION: The language of the poem is direct , clear and simple. The poem is a philosophy is a poem that affirms the black identity and taunts the black man’s values as something to celebrate and be proud of.

MOOD\TONE

The mood \Tone of the poet expresses awesomeness and strong emotional feeling of the wonderful nature of a black woman which has filled the poet’s heart with joy. The Tone is romantic and full of high praises.

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