**Personification**

Personification gives human characteristics to inanimate objects, animals, or ideas. This can really affect the way the reader imagines things. This is used in children’s books, poetry, and fictional literature. Examples include:

* opportunity knocked on the door
* the sun greeted me this morning
* the sky was full of dancing stars
* the vines wove their fingers together to form a braid
* the radio stopped singing and stared at me
* the sun played hide and seek with the clouds

**Symbolism**

Symbolism occurs when a word which has meaning in itself but is used to represent something entirely different. Examples are:

* Using an image of the American flag to represent patriotism and a love for one’s country.
* Using an apple pie to represent an American lifestyle.
* Using an apple to represent education.

**Onomatopoeia**

Onomatopoeia is the use of words that sound like their meaning, or mimic sounds.  They add a level of fun and reality to writing. Here are some examples:

* the burning wood hissed and crackled
* the words: beep, whirr, click, whoosh, swish, zap, zing, ping, clang, bong, hum, boom, munch, gobble, crunch, pow, smash, wham, quack, meow, oink, and tweet.