

Non-Fiction Key Language Terms Reference Sheet

Adjective

A word that describes a noun

Adverb

A word which describes a verb

Alliteration

The first letter of a word repeated either in sequence or throughout a sentence e.g. Sid the snake slid silently through the sand.

Direct Address

When the writer explicitly speaks to the reader

Emotive Language

Words chosen to provoke an emotional response in the reader

Hyperbole

To exaggerate the importance or dramatic impact of what is being said

Imperative

Giving a command e.g. Don't miss it!

Metaphor

A figure of speech which describes something by saying it is something else e.g. There was a wolf in our group of friends, it was just a matter of working out who it was.

Noun

The name of a person, place or thing

Personification

To give an inanimate object human qualities e.g. The tower reached up to the sky.

Repetition

When a word or phrase is said over and over again for emphasis

Rhetorical Question

A question which doesn't require an answer

Rule of Three

Listing something using three items or three words

Simile

A figure of speech which describes something by using 'like' or 'as' to compare it to something else e.g. The wind over the fell was as swift and fierce as a lion.

Verb

A doing word