

Repetition

(a language technique)



<http://www.jemastl.com/news/2015/2/16/was-winston-churchill-an-architect>



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ank52Zi_S0

Introduction

The purpose of this PowerPoint is to introduce the use of repetition as a language technique.

By the end of this PowerPoint you will have the knowledge and understanding of how to identify the technique within a range of texts.

When completing any form of writing activity for functional skills, try to apply the technique you've learned.

Learning outcomes

- To define the term 'repetition'
- To develop knowledge and understanding of the language technique

Definition

Can you define what 'repetition' means to you?

Definition of 'repetition'

Repetition is the technique of repeating the same word, phrase or clause for emphasis.

For example, Charles Dickens' *Tale of Two Cities*:

It was the best of times,
it was the worst of times,
it was the age of wisdom,
it was the age of foolishness,
it was the epoch of belief,
it was the epoch of incredulity,
it was the season of Light,
it was the season of Darkness,
it was the spring of hope,
it was the winter of despair,

A skilful use of contrast between spring and winter for example.

When to use repetition

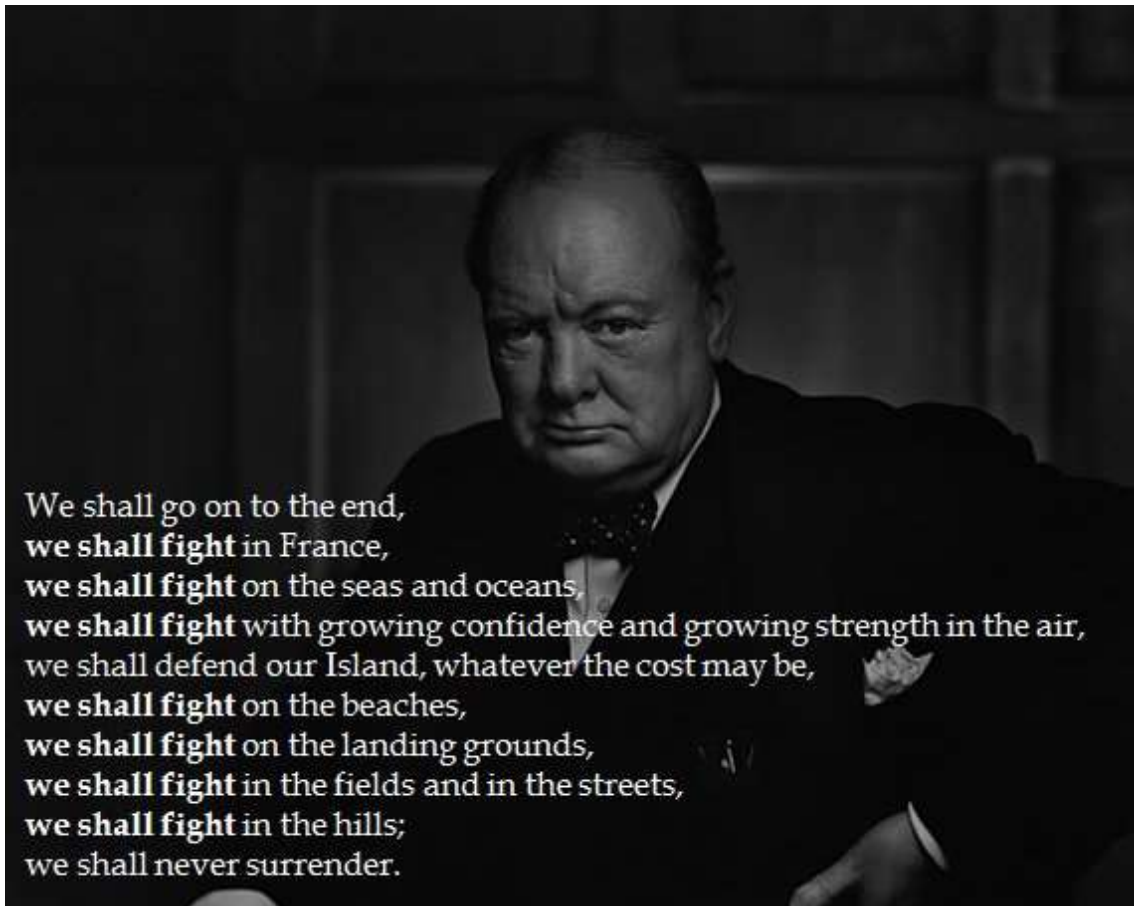
Repetition is commonly used in poetry as well as speeches.

It is used to great effect to:

- *make an idea clearer;*
- *highlight a key message;*
- *reinforce important key points;*
- *link different parts of a text together.*

*Repetition can make a speech very **POWERFUL**.*

Repetition at the beginning of a sentence



We shall go on to the end,
we shall fight in France,
we shall fight on the seas and oceans,
we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air,
we shall defend our Island, whatever the cost may be,
we shall fight on the beaches,
we shall fight on the landing grounds,
we shall fight in the fields and in the streets,
we shall fight in the hills;
we shall never surrender.

In the midst of World War II **Winston Churchill** delivered his speech to the House of Commons, June 4, 1940.

Martin Luther King's 'I Have a Dream' speech



And if America is to be a great nation, this must become true.
And so let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire.
Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York.
Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania.
Let freedom ring from the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado.
Let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California.

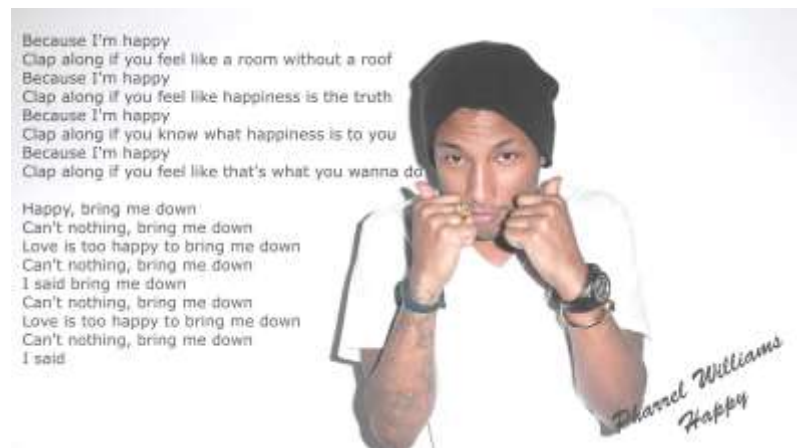
Repetition within music

Recent song titles include:

Somebody that I used to know, Gotye Ft. Kimbra

Happy, Pharrell Williams

<http://pharrellwilliams.com/>



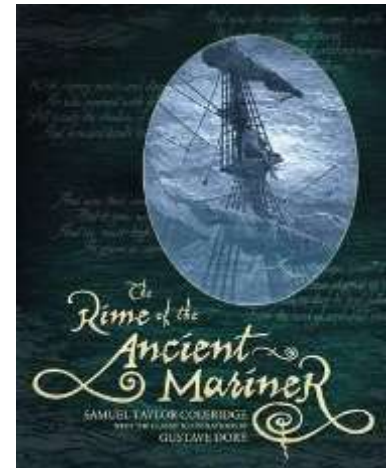
Black and Yellow, Wiz Khalifa

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, **Rime of the Ancient Mariner**

*I looked upon the rotting sea,
And drew my eyes away;
I looked upon the rotting deck,
And there the dead men lay.*

(Part IV)

Identify the repeated word or phrase.



Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Rime of the Ancient Mariner

Part IV

*I looked upon the rotting sea,
And drew my eyes away;
I looked upon the rotting deck,
And there the dead men lay.*

Repetition of the last word in a line or clause – ***rotting sea, rotting deck***

Repetition of the words at the start of a clause or verse – ***I looked***

The message is more **engaging** and **stylistically appealing**.

Exam Practice

Instructions

*You will need the following City & Guilds English Reading Level 2 **Mobile Phones** paper*

Refer to document 1, (a letter)

Question 3

*Identify two language techniques used by the author to put pressure on the new employee. Support your answers with quotes from the text. **(4 marks)***

Further exam practice

Instructions

*You will need the following City & Guilds English Reading Level 2 **Social Media** paper*

Refer to document 2, (a webpage)

Question 4

Name two language techniques used to sell the book. Give an example of each and briefly explain how each is effective. (6 marks)

Exam practice answers

Mobile Phones

Repetition

Matching phone to lifestyle, product knowledge, customer service

Imperative

You will, work hard

Rhetorical question

Can you master that?

Exam practice answers

Social Media

Techniques could include:

Repetition

Social media

Explanation:

To reinforce certain ideas

Imperative

Take action today

Explanation:

Prompts the reader to take immediate action

Hyperbole

Vital

Explanation:

Makes the reader think the book is important