

Name _____ **Diacope**



Diacope

Diacope is the repetition of a word or phrase with other words in between. The word diacope comes from the Greek word diakopē, which means “to cut into two.” The function of a diacope is to emphasize, describe, or specify something. A diacope can also be used to express a strong emotion or to call attention to certain words by repeating them. Poetically, it makes a phrase more rhythmic.

A famous example of a diacope is the first line of Hamlet’s famous soliloquy:

“To be or not to be, that is the question.”

In this example, the words “to be” are repeated, with the word “or not” between them.

DIRECTIONS: Identify the repeated words in each sentence.

1. I called and I called and I called, but no one answered.
2. Maybe she likes cake; maybe she likes cookies.
3. I lost my coat, I lost my wallet, I lost my self-control.
4. If I have told you once, I have told you a thousand times.
5. Be yourself to free yourself.