

Name _____ **Zeugma**



Zeugma

Zeugma is when you use a word in a sentence one time to simultaneously convey two different meanings. Often one meaning is literal while the other is figurative, but sometimes two completely different meanings of the word are employed. The function of zeugma is surprise.

EXAMPLE:

Over the years, he grew corn, soybeans, and increasingly angry.

In this example, the zeugma is the word “grew.” The two meanings employed are growing in the sense of growing crops, and growing in the sense of becoming.

DIRECTIONS: Underline the zeugma in each sentence.

1. She lost her purse, her car keys, and her mind.
2. He fell down the stairs and in love.
3. She dropped her accent and out of school.
4. She gazed at the stars in the sky and in his eyes.
5. Elaine found her shoes and her life’s work.