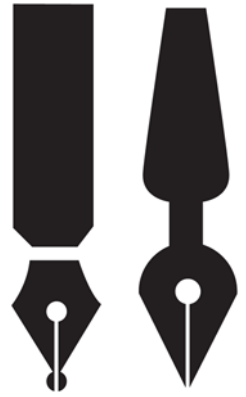


Name _____



Pleonasm

The word pleonasm comes from the Greek word *pleonasmos*, which means “excessive.” Pleonasm is a literary device that means using too many words to convey an intended message or idea. A pleonasm can be used intentionally, for emphasis or to add dramatic effect.

DIRECTIONS: Underline the pleonasm in each sentence. Explain the emphasis or dramatic effect.

1. “This was the most unkindest cut of all...” [from *Julius Caesar* by William Shakespeare]

2. “Let me tell you this, when social workers offer you, free, gratis and for nothing, something to hinder you from swooning, which with them is an obsession, it is useless to recoil ...” [from *Molloy* by Samuel Beckett]
