AP English 3 Midterm Review

Anaphora is the repetition of the same word or words at the beginning of successive phrases, clauses, or sentences, commonly in conjunction with climax and with parallelism:

* To think on death it is a misery,/ To think on life it is a vanity;/ To think on the world verily it is,/ To think that here man hath no perfect bliss. --Peacham

Antithesis establishes a clear, contrasting relationship between two ideas by joining them together or juxtaposing them, often in parallel structure. Human beings are inveterate systematizers and categorizers, so the mind has a natural love for antithesis, which creates a definite and systematic relationship between ideas:

* That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind. --Neil Armstrong

Asyndeton consists of omitting conjunctions between words, phrases, or clauses. In a list of items, asyndeton gives the effect of unpremeditated multiplicity, of an extemporaneous rather than a labored account:

* On his return he received medals, honors, treasures, titles, fame.

In certain cases, the omission of a conjunction between short phrases gives the impression of synonymy to the phrases, or makes the latter phrase appear to be an afterthought or even a substitute for the former. Compare:

* He was a winner, a hero.

Metonymy is another form of metaphor, very similar to synecdoche (and, in fact, some rhetoricians do not distinguish between the two), in which the thing chosen for the metaphorical image is closely associated with (but not an actual part of) the subject with which it is to be compared.

* The orders came directly from the White House.

In this example we know that the writer means the President issued the orders, because "White House" is quite closely associated with "President," even though it is not physically a part of him.

Polysyndeton is the use of a conjunction between each word, phrase, or clause, and is thus structurally the opposite of asyndeton. The rhetorical effect of polysyndeton, however, often shares with that of asyndeton a feeling of multiplicity, energetic enumeration, and building up.

* They read and studied and wrote and drilled. I laughed and played and talked and flunked

Synecdoche is a type of metaphor in which the part stands for the whole, the whole for a part, the genus for the species, the species for the genus, the material for the thing made, or in short, any portion, section, or main quality for the whole or the thing itself (or vice versa).

* Farmer Jones has two hundred head of cattle and three hired hands.

Here we recognize that Jones also owns the bodies of the cattle, and that the hired hands have bodies attached. This is a simple part-for-whole synecdoche.

Zeugma includes several similar rhetorical devices, all involving a grammatically correct linkage (or yoking together) of two or more parts of speech by another part of speech. Thus examples of zeugmatic usage would include one subject with two (or more) verbs, a verb with two (or more) direct objects, two (or more) subjects with one verb, and so forth. The main benefit of the linking is that it shows relationships between ideas and actions more clearly.

* Fred excelled at sports; Harvey at eating; Tom with girls

Here ‘excelled’ is the verb, and Fred, Harvey and Tom are the nouns/subjects while sports, eating and girls are what they excel at

Emerson:

* Entered Harvard at 14
* Criticized for focusing too much on self
* Came up with the idea of "The Over-Soul"
  + Several general themes are treated: (1) the existence and nature of the human soul; (2) the relationship between the soul and the personal ego; (3) the relationship of one human soul to another; and (4) the relationship of the human soul to God
  + (1) the human soul is immortal, and immensely vast and beautiful; (2) our conscious ego is slight and limited in comparison to the soul, despite the fact that we habitually mistake our ego for our true self; (3) at some level, the souls of all people are connected, though the precise manner and degree of this connection is not spelled out; and (4) the essay does not seem to explicitly contradict the traditional Western idea that the soul is created by and has an existence (?) that is similar to God, or rather God exists within us.
* "To go into solitude, a man needs to retire as much from his chamber as from society.” = to find peace, we cannot retreat to our homes
* Felt that: people often take the beauty of nature for granted, (major theme in American lit) the need to connect more fully to one's world, created a faith known as Transcendentalism, antislavery,
* "But over the dead he has no power, The lost, he cannot restore; And, looking over the hills I mourn, The darling who shall not return. - R.W.E. – very effected by the people in his life who died
* Emerson's religious views were often considered radical at the time. He believed that all things are connected to God and, therefore, all things are divine
* “Society everywhere is in conspiracy against the manhood of every one of its members,” Emerson tells us in “Self-Reliance.”

Thoreau:

* Spent Night in Jail for refusing to pay a t
* Was against slavery
* Lived: During the Civil War, slavery, Spanish War of Independence (born 1817, died 1862 - 44 years old)
* Focused on: his brother John, God, ultimate Truth, Harvard, surveying, making pencils, father, Walden Pond, cabin, reading and writing, nature, anti-slavery, Cape Cod, Maine woods, frontier and Indians
* Experiment: He made a cabin and stayed there for 2 years and 2 months

The American Dream: