

Stylistic devices

Underline the stylistic devices in the following quotations and write down their names! What are their effects on the reader?

The quotations are taken from "The Fifth Child" by Doris Lessing.

- "His voice was heavy and uncertain, each word separate, as if his brain were a lumber-house of ideas and objects, and he had to identify each one."

.....

- "... Amy, the loving little child in the big ugly body"

.....

- "He went into the garden, where they could see him, a squat little gnome, poking with a stick at the earth. " .

.....

- "They looked like a pair of judges after a good lunch, Harriet thought ..."

.....

- "At supper they were overbright, giggling, hysterical."

.....

- "Harriet understood .., how much the children had suffered; knew that they had talked about it ..."

.....

- "The place stood square and upright among dismal dripping evergreens"

.....

- "... and this oppressive building was telling her nerves, if not her intelligence - ... - that what she had feared was true."

.....

- "The building was silent"

.....

- "... and went into the dark caverns of a corridor" .

.....

- "... a square room whose walls were of white shiny plastic that was buttoned here and there and looked like a fake expensive leather upholstery.

-
- "... and (Harriet) put Ben on the bed. He was waking up. And then it began, the fighting, the heaving, the screaming. Again he was on the floor, rolling around it; and again he flexed and bent and thrashed, and his eyes were pure hate."
-

- "Ben's screams and struggling were shaking the house."
-

- "He crouched at the French doors, waiting for John to arrive; then followed him around like a puppy."
-

- "This business of the children locking themselves in made her feel excluded, forever shut out and repudiated by them."
-

- "What was he thinking as he stood there, watching them sharp? Did he want to hurt them? Was he experiencing a misery ...?"
-

- "She had given up trying to read to him, play with him, teach him anything."
-

- "Tantrums. Rages. Despair."
-

- "For the sake of the family, thought Harriet; for the children's sake ... for my sake and David's."
-

- "Jane continued solid, sensible, quiet"
-

- "He (Paul) was alone with Harriet, ... He was demanding, shrill, difficult, often in tears. Where was that enchanting, delicious little child, her Paul, ...? He was too thin. He had never eaten properly."
-

- "He went rigid. He slowly turned his head and looked at her. The bread in his hand was trembling: he was trembling. He remembered, all right."
-