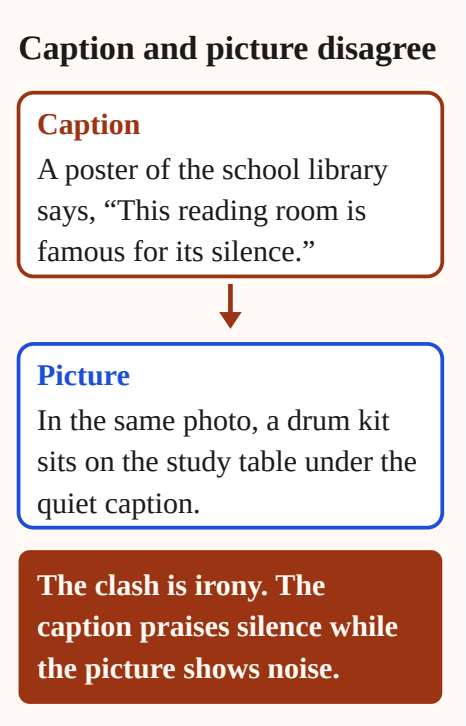
English Language Arts 10-1

Unit 2: Comprehend and respond to texts

Craft and effect

Caption and image contrast

- Caption. A poster of the school library says, “This reading room is famous for its silence.”
- Picture. In the same photo, a drum kit sits on the study table under the quiet caption.
- The clash is irony. The caption praises silence while the picture shows noise.



Choices and their effects

- Parallel structure and repetition hammer a sound, as in “Blow, blow.”
- A straightforward sentence such as Stow the sail uses the plain dictionary meaning, the denotation, of sail.
- Irony, satire, image, motif, and an expert’s name each leave a different effect.

Key terms

parallel structure

Repeating the same shape of words so the ear hears the match, as in “Dip, dip” and “Blow, blow.”

irony

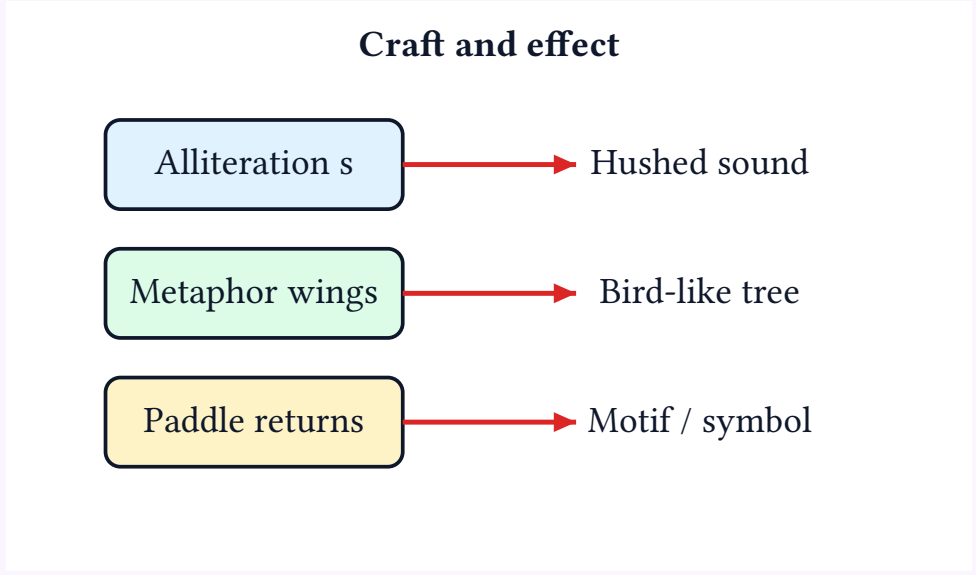
A gap between what a text says and what the picture or situation shows, as when a silence caption sits over a drum kit.

pathos

An effect that draws a feeling of sorrow or tenderness from concrete details, such as poppies growing between crosses.

Annotated example

- Choice: “Soft is the song my paddle sings.” Effect: the s sounds, alliteration, make the line feel hushed.
- Choice: a fir tree with emerald wings. Effect: metaphor and colour give the tree a bird-like picture.
- Choice: the paddle comes back in line after line, from the calm lullaby lines to the crash of the rapids. Effect: that return is a motif, and the blade can also work as a symbol of courage.



Irony and pathos

- E. Pauline Johnson writes, “Soft is the song my paddle sings,” and the repeated s sound makes the line feel hushed. John McCrae opens “In Flanders Fields” with poppies blowing between the crosses, row on row.
- Alliteration in Johnson’s line hushes the paddle. McCrae’s image of poppies and crosses asks for quiet grief. That feeling is pathos.
- A poster caption says the library is famous for silence, while the photo shows a drum kit on the study table. The clash is irony.

Practice with a poster

- A hallway poster says, “Our hallways are perfectly calm.” The photo shows three students running, one shoe in the air, and the late bell drawn as a lightning bolt.
- Name the device, say the effect in a full sentence, and say what the lightning bolt adds.

Review

- A new library poster says, “We honour quiet study.” The picture shows yellow cymbals stacked on an open book.
- Name the device, the effect, and whether the yellow cymbals also work as an image.