

LESSON 4

EXERCISE 4.1

Be able to answer the following questions orally.

1. What is verbal irony and why is it called a figure of speech? When it is used in speech, what is it called?
Verbal irony is a figure of speech in which a writer or speaker means something opposite to what is stated. Calling a friend a bookworm when he never reads would be using verbal irony. Verbal irony is often called sarcasm when used in speech.
2. How would you use verbal irony to draw attention to the fact that you have taken a whole hour to solve a puzzle that you boasted that you could complete in one minute?
See, it only took me second to complete the puzzle!
3. What do the terms *oxymoron*, *hyperbole*, and *rhetorical question* mean?
oxymoron: a figure of speech in which two contrasting or contradicting words are coupled to achieve an effect
hyperbole: a figure of speech using exaggeration
rhetorical question: a question asked for effect and not to solicit an answer

EXERCISE 4.2

Write down the word in the blanks indicated by the description. The letters of the darker shaded boxes will spell out a mystery word. Write out the mystery word and be able to explain it.

1. (figurative) It means the opposite of literal.
2. (Wordsworth) He and his sister wrote an account of an experience out in the country on an early spring day.
3. (oxymoron) A clashing combination of words is called an ____.
4. (synecdoche) A figure of speech in which a part represents a whole or the whole represents a part.
5. (metonymy) A figure of speech in which a word is used for another closely related to it.

The mystery word is *irony*.