**Sample Work on Analogies, Anthithesis, Litototes, Metaphors, and Similes**

Examples taken from *Rhetorical Devices: A Handbook for Student Writers*

**Analogy:**

The desire for wealth, when unchecked, can lead only to great evil. For though a man may begin with but a sip of wine, without restraint, the urge will grow until one day he is a drunkard, blinded to all but his need, taking whatever steps are needed to find his fix.

What is being compared?

**Anthithesis**

**Identify the contrasts in the following sentences.**

Life can be kind and cruel, full of hope and heartache.

Life can be kind and mean, full of joy and heartache.

For each example underline the parts that make it anthithesis:

If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich. John F. Kennedy

I came to Bury Caesar, not to praise him. Shakespeare, *Julius Caesar*

To err is human, to forgive, divine. Alexander Pope

Fair is Foul, and foul is fair. Shakespeare, *Macbeth*

Write a sentence which is an example of antithesis which discusses something which is unjust.

**Litotes, similar to understatement , emphasizes its point by using a word opposite to the condition.**

Ie instead of saying “The trip across the mountain was a hard journey, “ we could say “The trip was no easy journey.

I will multiply them, and they shall not be few; I will make them honored, and they shall not be small.” (Jeremiah 30:19)

That sword was not useless/to the warrior now. *Beowulf*

It isn’t very serious. I have this tiny little tumor on the brain. *The Catcher in the Rye*

*Write a litote about a hot or cold drink*

**Metaphors and Similes both compare two unlike things; similes use like or as**

*My love is like a red, red rose, that is newly sprung in June.* ~ Robert Burns  
  
*Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?  
Thou art more lovely and more temperate.* ~ Shakespeare

Take the following three topics and write similes and metaphors for each one:

Friendship is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Gossip

Country Music