Principal Rhetorical and Literary Devices

1. **Alliteration**: repetition of the same letter at beginning of words or syllables:
Marcus me momordit.

2. **Anaphora**: the repetition of a word or phrase for emphasis:
   non feram, non sinam, non patiar

3. **Anastrophe**: inversion of usual word order (e.g., preposition after the word it governs):
   te propter vivo (instead of the expected *propter te vivo*)

4. **Aposiopesis**: breaking off in the middle of a sentence :
   quem ego . . . sed non possum pergere. ("Whom I . . . but I cannot go on.")

5. **Apostrophe**: addressing a person who is not present:
   O maiores, quid diceretis de hac re? ("Oh ancestors, what would you say about this matter?")

6. **Asyndeton**: omission of conjunctions:
   videt, sentit, scit.

7. **Chiasmus**: "a-b-b-a" arrangement of words:
   magnas urbes oppida parva (adjective, noun, noun, adjective)

8. **Ellipsis**: omission of words:
   Dixit me inventum. ("He said I had been found." *esse* is missing).

9. **Hendiadys**: use of two nouns together to express a noun modified by an adjective:
   luctus et labor (meaning "grievous toil")

10. **Hyperbole**: exaggeration.
    Catilina est mons vitiorum. ("Catiline is a mountain of vices.")

11. **Hysteron proteron**: placing first what the reader might expect to come last
    mortuus est et hostem inruit ("He died and he rushed against the enemy")

12. **Litotes**: use of a negative to express a strong positive
    Haud stultus erat Cicero. ("Cicero was very intelligent").

13. **Metaphor**: expression of meaning through an image
    Horatius est lux litterarum Latinarum. ("Horace is the light of Latin literature.")

14. **Metonymy**: substitution of one word for another that it suggests
    Neptunus me terret (to mean, "the sea frightens me").

15. **Onomatopoeia**: use of words that sound like their meaning
    Murmurant multi (the "m"'s produce the sound of murmuring).

16. **Oxymoron**: use of an apparent contradiction
    parvum monstrum

17. **Personification**: attribution of human characteristics to something not human
    Ipsa saxa dolent. ("The rocks themselves grieve")

18. **Pleonasm**: use of superfluous words
    Oculis me videt. ("She sees me with her eyes.")

19. **Polysyndeton**: use of many conjunctions
    et videt et sentit et scit

20. **Prolepsis** (anticipation): use of a word sooner than it would logically appear
    submersis obruit puppis ("he overwhelms the sunken ships").

21. **Simile**: comparison using a word like *sicut*, *similis*, or *velut*.
    Volat sicut avis. ("He flies like a bird.")

22. **Synecdoche**: use of part to express a whole
    Prora in portam navigavit. ("The ship sailed into the harbor." prora [prow] for navis [ship]).

23. **Tmesis**: the separation of a compound word into two parts
    saxo cere comminuit brum (for *saxo cerebrum comminuit:* "He smashed   his brain with a rock.").

24. **Tricolon crescens** (ascending tricolon): combination of three elements, increasing in size
    non ferar, non patiar, non tolerabo

25. **Zeugma**: use of one word in two different senses simultaneously
    Aeneas tulit dolorem et patrem Troia. (Aeneas carried grief and his father from Troy).