

Disambiguation page for Repetition Devices

Page

Discussion

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Overview

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These four devices can involve identical wording or multiple meanings, but differ in whether the relevant word occurs once or more than once, and whether repeated occurrences retain the same meaning and application.

One-Sentence Discriminators

- **Pun** (*al-tawriya*) — **one occurrence with two possible meanings**: a single word carries a near apparent meaning and a distant intended meaning.
- **Tikrār** (*al-tikrār*) — **two or more occurrences with the same meaning and application**: the same lexical item or expression is repeated without a relevant change in meaning or application.
- **Tardīd** (*al-tardīd*) — **two or more occurrences with different applications**: the same lexical item is repeated with a different application; its lexical meaning may also change, but need not do so.
- **Complete Paronomasia** (*al-jinās al-tāmm*) — **two components identical in form but different in lexical meaning**.

Comparison Table

Device	Occurrences	Form	Lexical meaning	Application
Pun	1	One lexical occurrence	Two meanings available	Near meaning apparent; distant meaning intended
Tikrār	2+	Same item/expression repeated	Same	Same
Tardīd	2+	Same lexical item repeated	Same or different	Different
Complete Paronomasia	2+	Identical form	Different	Different

Decision Tree

1. Is there only one occurrence of the relevant word?
 - **Yes** → If that word activates a near apparent meaning and a distant intended meaning → **Pun**.
 - **No** → Continue.
2. Do the repeated occurrences retain the same lexical meaning and the same application?
 - **Yes** → **Tikrār**.
 - **No** → Continue.
3. Do the formally identical components have different lexical meanings?
 - **Yes** → **Complete Paronomasia**. If the same lexical item is also being repeated with different applications, **Tardīd** may additionally apply.
 - **No** → If the same lexical item is repeated with a different application → **Tardīd**.

Core Distinction

Encyclopedia Interpretation

The four mechanisms can be distinguished by asking whether there is one lexical occurrence or multiple occurrences, and then whether lexical meaning or contextual application changes:

one occurrence + two possible meanings → Pun

multiple occurrences + same meaning + same application → Tikrār

multiple occurrences + different application → Tardīd

multiple identical forms + different lexical meanings → Complete Paronomasia

Tardīd and Complete Paronomasia are not necessarily mutually exclusive. Where the same lexical item is repeated with both

and Complete Tashnīyah are not necessarily mutually exclusive. Where the same lexical item is repeated with both a different application and a different lexical meaning, the criteria for both may be satisfied; Nābulī explicitly observes that in such cases the distinction between *al-tardīd* and *al-jinās* may disappear.^[1]

References

1. ↑ Pierre Cachia, *The Arch Rhetorician: Or The Schemer's Skimmer: A Handbook of Late Arabic Badī' Drawn from 'Abd al-Ghanī an-Nābulī's Nafahāt al-Azhār 'ala Nasamāt al-Aṣḥār*, Studies in Arabic Language and Literature 3 (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 1998), pp. 33-34; §54, ISBN 9783447040327.

Page History

- 2026-08-16 - Page created: [Disambiguation page for Repetition Devices](#).

Category: [Disambiguation Pages](#)

Cite this page: Dr Mandar Marathe  (2026). "Disambiguation page for Repetition Devices". *al-Balagha.com: The Encyclopedia of Arabic Rhetoric*. https://al-balagha.com/wiki/Disambiguation_page_for_Repetition_Devices

This page was last edited on 31 August 2026, at 02:35.

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