Persuasive Language Devices

Device	Definition	Example
Adjectives and Adverbs	Influence how readers feel by carefully selecting adjectives and adverbs.	These poor animals desperately need a safe home.
Alliteration	Place words beginning with the same sound close together to emphasise a point.	Sam's Seafood serves amazing fish and chips.
Emotive Language	Words designed to evoke emotions, and make people feel a certain way (eg. guilty, sad, angry).	The dog was abandoned in a filthy street.
Hyperbole	Use exaggerated language to emphasise your argument.	This is the scariest roller coaster in the world!
Involve the Reader	Talk to the reader using inclusive language such as 'our', 'we', 'us', or 'you'.	We need to act before it's too late.
Modality	High modality words indicate a high level of certainty (eg. will, must). Low modality words indicate a low level of certainty (eg. might, could).	Accidents will continue unless something is done about the condition of the roads.
Power of Three	Make a list of three things that support your argument to help make a dramatic point.	It ensures children are safe, happy, and active.
Repetition	Use words or phrases more than once to reinforce a point and make an argument memorable.	Visit us for the best burgers, the best chips, and the best live music in town!
Rhetorical Questions	Questions that aren't supposed to be answered. They're asked to illustrate a point or to make the reader think.	Can we really afford not to invest more into our schools?
Use Evidence	Use facts, figures or quotes to help persuade the audience.	According to the World Wildlife Fund, a fifth of the Amazon has disappeared in just 50 years.

