

Figurative Language

The opposite of **literal language** is **figurative language**.

Figurative language is language that means more than what it says on the surface.

It usually gives us a feeling about its subject.

Poets use figurative language almost as frequently as literal language. When you read poetry, you must be conscious of the difference. Otherwise, a poem may make no sense at all.



Figurative Language

You will find many types of **figurative language** in stories and poems.

Today, we are going to focus on...

simile
metaphor
alliteration
hyperbole
personification
onomatopoeia



Simile

A simile is a comparison of two unlike things using the words like or as. Similes give the reader a new way to see or understand something and can create a strong mental picture.



His temper was as explosive
as a volcano.

They fight like cats and
dogs.

Simile

His fleece was white as _____.

Metaphor

A metaphor is a comparison of two different things to show a likeness between them. Metaphors *do not* use the words *like* or *as* when making comparisons, as do similes.

My uncle is a fish in the water.



Metaphor

Happiness is a _____.

Alliteration

Alliteration is the repetition (repeating) of a consonant sound at the beginning of two or more words that are next to each other or near each other to create a feeling or mood.



She was **w**ide-eyed and
wondering **w**hile she **w**aited
for **W**alter to **w**aken.

Alliteration

Surfer Sue saved several _____ on Saturday.

Hyperbole

A **hyperbole** is an exaggeration of the truth, usually meant to be humorous or funny.

I am so hungry I could eat a horse.

This statement is an exaggeration of the true fact that the speaker is hungry.



Hyperbole

Her singing was louder than a _____.

Personification

Personification is giving human traits (qualities, feelings, action, or characteristics) to non-living objects.



The tree danced happily in the wind.

Personification

The stars _____ in the sky.

Onomatopoeia

Onomatopoeia is the naming of a thing or action by a vocal imitation of the sound associated with it.

With the **click** of a mouse I can open another window on my computer.



Onomatopoeia

How many "sound words" can you think of?

Toby was totally lost. He must have wandered away from his family because he realized that he was alone in the middle of the wide whispering woods. *Thunk! Thunk!* went his feet on the soft pine needles that covered the ground like a soft brown blanket. Birds twittered and tweeted from the sky-scraping branches of trees, but there was no sound of his family. He wasn't frightened exactly, but he was as anxious as a fish out of water to find his family before evening. The thought of spending a night in the woods alone was one that made his heart dance a fearful frenzied jig in his chest. Heaving a sigh, Toby tiredly trudged on.

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Go Figure!

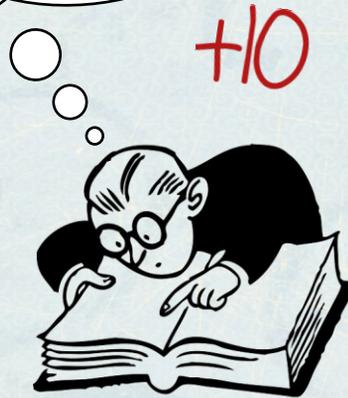
When you are reading, if you come across a

***simile, metaphor, alliteration, hyperbole,
personification or onomatopoeia***

send it to Mrs. Sol for **10 extra credit points!**

You must include:

1. The figurative language sample you found
2. The source (book, magazine, etc.)
3. The author's name
4. What type of figurative language it is



Go Figure!

Challenge

"High above a thick and prickly trunk, the branches of the trees drooped down like laundry hung out to dry, spreading their wide, flat leaves out in every direction, like a low, leafy ceiling over the Baudelaires' heads."



Metaphor

*A Series of Unfortunate Events,
The Ersatz Elevator*
By Lemony Snicket

Submitted by Madeline