Figurative Language Unit

The Study of:

Alliteration
onomatopoeia

Metaphor

Simile

Hyperbole

Personification

Idiom

By: Panicked Teacher ©2011
http://panickedteacher.typepad.com/blog/
Figurative Language

What is figurative language?

The Study of:

Alliteration

Onomatopoeia

Metaphor

Simile

Hyperbole

Personification

Idiom
What is Alliteration?

Alliteration: Repeated consonant sounds at the beginning of words.

Alliteration Examples:

B

Betsy bought bigger bottoms for baby Billy.

S

Samantha saw seven silly soldiers selling strawberries Saturday.

M

Maria made millions of marshmallow muffins for many mellow messengers.
What is onomatopoeia?

Onomatopoeia: Words whose sound suggests its meaning.

Onomatopoeia Examples:

The bees **buzzed** by flying back to their hive.

**Click** the button to take the picture.

The pig **squealed** when it saw the dog coming.
What is a metaphor?
Metaphor: A figure of speech stating two things are similar.

Metaphor Examples:
The strawberry was a fresh summer day.
The rain came down in full cold buckets.
The test was a long never-ending marathon.
She read the book at a snail's pace.
What is a Simile?

Simile: A comparison using “like” or “as.”

Simile Examples:

She was **as smart as an owl**.

The student was **as quiet as a mouse**.

My backpack was **like a bag of bricks**.
What is a Hyperbole?

Hyperbole: An extravagant exaggeration.

Hyperbole Examples:

The walk was a million miles long!

I ate five-thousand pancakes for breakfast!

The bag of gifts weighs a ton!
Personification

What is Personification?

Personification: Giving human qualities to things and ideas.

Personification Examples:
The tree leaves *danced in the wind*.
The chair *stood up straight and tall*.
The car *jumped to the finish line*.
What is an Idiom?

Idiom: A phrase that has a meaning different from the dictionary definition.

Idiom Examples:
She didn't want to open that can of worms.
The test was a piece of cake!
Don't take the fall for your friend.
The early bird gets the worm.
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- Onomatopoeia
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Examples of Idioms

**Apple of my eye**—feeling affection for someone

**A dime a dozen**—something so common that it has little value, no need

**A taste of your own medicine**—a lesson where other people treat you the same way you treat them in order to teach you that you are acting badly ...

**Back to the drawing board**—figuring out a new solution to a problem

**Ball is in your court**—it is up to you to make a decision

**Bend over backwards**—helping someone

**Bite your tongue**—stopping yourself from saying something that will hurt someone's feelings

**Blowing your top**—becoming extremely angry

**Break a leg**—do a great job

**Breaking news**—important information that just happened

**Breaking the ice**—getting to know someone

**Call the shots**—tell people what to do, in charge

**Changing your mind**—deciding to do something else

**Clear the air**—talk about a problem

**Come in handy**—something that is useful

**Cracking up**—thinking something is funny, laughing

**Cup of Joe**—cup of coffee

**Cut it out**—stop doing something

**Cutting corners**—to take a shortcut, to find a cheaper or easier way of doing something

**Dead as a doornail**—lifeless
Don't rock the boat—do not cause problems
Going out on a limb—taking a risk
Hit the road—leave
Hit the hay/sack—you are going to go to sleep
I'm all ears—ready to listen
Lend someone a hand—help someone out
That is over her/his head—they don't understand
Penny pincher—someone who does not spend a lot of money and likes to buy things cheap
Piece of cake—easy or simple
State of the art—the best
Stealing my thunder—taking the attention away from someone's accomplishments and achievements
Take a hike—telling someone to leave
Take a rain check—declining now, but suggesting you may say yes in the future
The apple doesn't fall far from the tree—a child growing up to be very similar to their parents with similar characteristics
The drop of a hat—doing something instantly before anything else, stopping what you are doing to do something else
The early bird gets the worm—whoever arrives first has the best chance of success
Under the weather—ill or sick
Wake up and smell the coffee—Start paying attention to what is happening around you
Walking on eggshells—being very careful because someone gets easily offended or angry
We are in the same boat—being in the same situation or having the same problem as others
Zip your lip—be quiet
Similes

Find the similes. Highlight or underline them.

1. The clock struck midnight and the sky was as black as ink.
2. The new couch was as big as a bus and could hardly fit inside their small living room.
3. She forgot her glasses and felt as blind as a bat, so she had difficulty reading.
4. She forgot her homework four days in a row and felt as flaky as a snowstorm.
5. After getting all the questions correct on her test, she felt as wise as an owl.
6. The snobby and conceited girl treated everyone badly and was as cold as ice.
7. I needed my sunglasses inside since the lights were as bright as day.
8. The new baby looked as cute as a cupcake in his brand new giraffe sweater.
9. Her brand new puppy was as cute as a button when he chased his tail in circles.
10. The frog wasn’t moving because it was as dead as a doornail.
11. When everyone is sleeping, the house is as quiet as a mouse.
12. When she graduated from high school, her mom was as proud as a peacock.
13. When the school bell rings at the end of the day I feel as free as a bird.
14. She accidentally dropped the meatball and it was as flat as a pancake.
15. She ate the huge pizza all by herself and felt as fat as a pig.
16. She exercised and ate healthy things all week and felt as light as a feather.
17. Finding the ring she lost was like finding a needle in a haystack.
18. The girl walked as slow as a snail because she was so exhausted.
19. The class was as quiet as a mouse because they didn’t want to get in trouble.
20. She was so cozy in her bed she felt as snug as a bug in a rug.
Similes

Find the similes. Highlight or underline them.

21. The teacher told him it is as solid as a rock, admiring his model airplane.
22. He wouldn’t change his mind and was told he was as stubborn as a mule.
23. She felt as sick as a dog when she had the flu and didn’t go to school yesterday.
24. She didn’t care what others said about her because she was as tough as nails.
25. The extraordinary girl was as sweet as honey and was voted class president.
26. She was so scared that she turned as white as a ghost.
27. The dog’s fur looked as fluffy and white as snow after getting his hair washed.
28. The basketball players all looked as tall as giraffes to the people in the audience.
29. The ants at the picnic were as welcome as a skunk at a lawn party.
30. He stayed out in the sun all day and after his face looked as red as a tomato.
31. He hadn’t eaten the entire day at school and felt as hungry as a bear.
32. The class acted like busy bees getting ready for open house later that day.
33. When she made her speech she felt like a bug under a magnifying glass.
34. He disappeared as quick as a wink when his mom asked him to do chores.
35. The girl acted as nutty as a fruitcake when she wouldn’t stop laughing.
36. Someone stole all of the money in her wallet and she felt as poor as dirt.
37. She felt as fit as a fiddle after completing the twelve week exercise program.
38. Her dad looked like a bald badger because he lost all his hair.
39. The play was not good and would last as long as balloons in a room of kittens.
40. She was as pleased as punch after she got a letter from her Grandma.
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Metaphor Examples
Highlight or underline the 2 things being compared in each metaphor.

Their mom was the rock of the family.

The ship was a tiger roaring through the water.

The airplane was an elephant running on the runway.

The girl was a kitten to the new baby.

Time was a thief to me this year.

Her memory is cloudy since she can never remember anything.

Her life was a rainbow of experiences.

Her birthday was a storm of happiness.

Her smile was sunshine when her baby was born.

The history test was a train wreck.

The dinner was an ocean of flavors.

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Hyperbole Examples

Highlight or underline the hyperbole example in each sentence.

My backpack weighed a ton with all of my books in it.

The homework list was miles long.

The alarm clock could be heard around the world it was so loud.

I felt like I hadn't seen you in years.

I could eat every hamburger on this planet, I was so hungry.

She thought she was the best tennis player on this planet.

The class was never ending.

Her brain was the size of a pea.

I will die if I have to read one more page, I am so tired.

I have told him a million times to get his chores done.

The family had to wait for centuries to get seated at the restaurant.

The pile of garbage reached the sky.

I'll never reach the end of the race.
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**I'll never reach** the end of the race.
Personification Examples

Highlight or underline the personification example in each sentence.

The stars danced in the night sky.
The old and tattered house looked depressed.
The wind howled during the rainstorm.
Time flies when you are having a great time.
Her life passed by so quickly.
The phone blurted out a loud ring.
The popular toy flew off the shelves during the holidays.
The fire ran wild and spread really quickly putting the homes in danger.
The year raced by and before we knew it, summer was here.
The thunder growled in the night.
The girl's heart skipped down the street when she got nervous.
The boy's shirt yelled my name since it was so bright.
The snow wrapped the trees in white, fluffy blankets.
The cookies screamed, "I'm done!" from the oven.
The city streets whispered quietly during the night.
The river ran through the mountaintop.
The good news traveled fast through the town.
The opportunity knocked at his door.
The tree appeared angry when it lost its leaves.
The strawberries smiled with juiciness.
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Onomatopoeia: Words whose sound suggests its meaning.

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<tr>
<th>Bam</th>
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<th>Slap</th>
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Alliteration uses **repeated consonant sounds** at the beginning of each word. Write two examples below.

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letter:
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```
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Figurative Language Game

Cut out the strips and distribute to students. Have the student read their sentence out loud.
Students must tell what type of figurative language is being used and WHY they chose that type of Figurative Language.

Cut on the line and distribute one per student.

There was a tremendously loud CRASH outside my window on the street.

I felt like my sister was a million miles away when she left for college.

The girl looked as cozy as a soft kitten when she fell asleep on her blanket.

The sun was a glowing ball of fire in the sky.

She was down in the dumps when her friend moved away.

Betsy baked better bread with bananas, blueberries, and butter.

The bugs went SPLAT on the windshield when we were driving to the campsite.

The warm smile of the sun made me happy that summer was finally here.

I had thousands of chores to do before the day was over.

She was treated like a queen on her birthday.

Her mother was a teddy bear and everyone loved her.

The boys were just hanging around the basketball court before going home.

Toad took Tommy Turtle to tell Tabitha two tall tales Tuesday.
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The cereal went SNAP, CRACKLE, POP when he poured in the milk at breakfast.

The leaves whistled in the rain.

She was so hungry she could eat a horse.

Her face turned red as a beet when she tripped on her way to the stage.

The moon was a bright ball of smoke in the night sky.

The rest of the test was smooth sailing since she knew every single answer.

Linda liked laughing and licking lollipops.

There was a BOOM when the box fell off the desk onto the floor.

The car died on the side of the road when it ran out of gas.

His dad could lift over two tons because he exercised every single day.

The lemons she used in the dessert tasted like sour grapes.

The students in this class are all brains.

The class was cracking up at his jokes.

Stella sold sixty-six silly salamanders Sunday.

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## Figurative Language Challenge

Write an example of each type of figurative language to add to your portfolio of work.

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<td><strong>Metaphor</strong>&lt;br&gt;There was a rainbow of flavors in the pizza tonight.&lt;br&gt;This is a metaphor since I compared the delicious ingredients and tastes to any of the colors in a rainbow.</td>
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Figurative Language Master Award

______________________________________
(name)

______________________________________
(date)

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