



# What Is Figurative Language?

Figurative language is a way of using words to compare something to something else – beyond the literal meaning.

Figurative language is used for emphasis and impact.

I've told you a million times to clean your room!



She ran as fast as lightning.



His team was on top of the world after winning the championship game.



# Why Use Figurative Language?

Figurative language makes our writing more interesting. It also helps the reader create a mental image of our meaning.

**Which sounds more interesting?**

We are alike.

OR

We are two peas in a pod.

# **Types of Figurative Language**

Here are a few types we will discuss:

**Simile**

**Metaphor**

**Personification**

**Hyperbole**

# Simile

A **simile** compares two things by using the words “like” or “as.”

Your eyes sparkle **like** diamonds.

The classroom looked **like** a tornado had gone through!

I tiptoed **as** quietly **as** a mouse.

**Similes** always include the words “like” or “as.”

# Metaphor

A **metaphor** compares one thing to another **without** using “like” or “as.”

Laughter is music for the soul.

You are my sunshine.

Those ideas are food for thought.

**Metaphors** say one thing *is* another.

# Personification

**Personification** gives human qualities to animals, non-living objects, or ideas.

The stars danced in the sky.

In the jungle, the lion sings tonight.

That cake is calling my name.

**Personification** gives something non-human the qualities of a **person**.

# Hyperbole

**Hyperbole** is obvious exaggeration to make a point.

She knows everything about math!

You are the best teacher in the entire universe.

My hands are ice cold!

**Similes** and **metaphors** can also be examples of **hyperbole**.



# Quiz

Can you correctly identify the type of figurative language?



## **Simile, Metaphor, Personification, or Hyperbole?**

My phone shouted at me from the other side of the room.



# **Personification**

## **Simile, Metaphor, Personification, or Hyperbole?**

His heart was broken.



# **Metaphor**

# Simile, Metaphor, Personification, or Hyperbole?

Your name sounds like music to my ears!



**Simile**

## **Simile, Metaphor, Personification, or Hyperbole?**

There's no river wide enough to keep me from getting to you.



# **Hyperbole**

**Question:**

Why do you think we use  
figurative language  
in writing?

