Name:_____ **Week 4 Day 1**

Figurative Language Worksheet #1

Alliteration, Hyperbole, and Personification

Figurative language is used in all kinds of writing, but is most commonly found in poetry. Figurative language is a way for the writer to add more detail to their writing as well as some extra creativity.

For today's worksheet, you are going to be identifying which of the following three figurative language techniques, alliteration, hyperbole, or personification, are being used in each example sentence.

Alliteration: The repetition of the first consonant sound, meaning the first letter or sound of a word.

- **Example: She sells sea shells by the sea shore.**
- **Why is this alliteration?**
  - **The majority of the words in this sentence all start with the letter "s"**

Hyperbole: An extravagant statement; an over exaggeration used to emphasize a point.

- **Example: I'm so hungry I could eat a horse!**
- **Why is this hyperbole?**
  - **The person isn't actually going to be able to eat a horse, they are just exaggerating how hungry they are.**

Personification: A figure of speech in which an inanimate object (something that isn't alive) is given human qualities or abilities.

- **Example: The flower danced in the breeze**
- **Why is this personification?**
  - **Flowers don't have legs, so they can't actually dance. The figure of speech is being used to describe what the flower looks like in the wind.**

Directions: For the following sentences, say which of the three types of figurative language listed above is being used. After writing what type of figurative language it is, then explain why.

Example: The stairs groaned as we walked on them.
Answer: Personification
Explanation: Stairs don't have voices so they can't actually groan.

1. That class was so boring, it took three years to finally end.
   - Which figurative language is being used?
     - Answer:
     - Explanation:
2. I died from embarrassment.
   - Which figurative language is being used?
     - Answer:
     - Explanation:

3. Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
4. The wind howled in the night.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
5. Lucy Lindon lifted the large bag of lemons.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
6. My alarm clock yells at me to get out of bed every morning.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
7. He's as skinny as a toothpick.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
8. Kim's kid kept kicking like crazy.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
9. Nick's nephew needed some new notebooks.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:

10. I have a ton of papers to grade.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
11. Tim took tons of tools to make toys for the tots.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
12. The moon smiled at the stars in the sky.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
13. The approaching car's headlights winked at me.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
14. Our car cost us an arm and a leg.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
15. The avalanche devoured anything standing in its way.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:

If doing this assignment online, make sure to hit turn in when you're done.

If doing this assignment on paper, make sure to put your name on it.

Name:_____ **Week 4 Day 2**

Figurative Language Worksheet #2

Metaphor, Onomatopoeia, and Simile

Figurative language is used in all kinds of writing, but is most commonly found in poetry. Figurative language is a way for the writer to add more detail to their writing as well as some extra creativity.

For today's worksheet, you are going to be identifying which of the following three figurative language techniques, metaphor, onomatopoeia, or simile, are being used in each example sentence.

Metaphor: A direct comparison between two unlike things that actually have something important in common. *Does NOT use "like" or "as".*

- **Example: The classroom was a zoo**
- **Why is this metaphor?**
  - **The classroom wasn't actually a zoo. In this sentence is implying that the classroom was crazy and students weren't behaving, so it is comparing it to a zoo.**

Onomatopoeia: The formation or use of words that imitate the sounds associated with the objects or actions they refer to.

- **Example: *Beep, beep, beep.* My alarm woke me from my sleep.**
- **Why is this onomatopoeia?**
  - **The words *beep* in italics is writing how the alarm clock sounds.**

Simile: A stated comparison formed with "like" or "as".

- **Example: He is as strong as an ox**
- **Why is this simile?**
  - **The man isn't actually as strong as an ox, they are just comparing him to one because he is so strong. This sentence also uses "as", therefore it is a simile.**

Directions: For the following sentences, say which of the three types of figurative language listed above is being used. After writing what type of figurative language it is, then explain why.

Example: Watching the show was like watching grass grow

Answer: Simile

Explanation: This is a comparison using the word "like". It is comparing how boring and slow the show is to how boring and slow watching grass grow is.

1. The constant bark, bark, bark of the dog was driving me crazy!
   - Which figurative language is being used?
     - Answer:
     - Explanation:
2. My love for you is as deep as the ocean.
   - Which figurative language is being used?
     - Answer:
     - Explanation:

3. He is a night owl.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
4. The kids were monkeys on the jungle gym.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
5. That basketball player was as tall as a giraffe.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
6. That gym bag is as smelly as a dead fish.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
7. The dishes fell to the floor with a clatter.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
8. The dress is perfect because it fits like a glove.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
9. The cat knocked the glass to the ground with a giant crash!
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:

10. The chirp of the whistle let us know the game was over.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
11. The snow is a white blanket.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
12. Life is a highway.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
13. The pigs were oinking when the farmer brought them their feed.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
14. You’re as cold as ice.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
15. At five o’clock the interstate is always a parking lot.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:

If doing this assignment online, make sure to hit turn in when you’re done.

If doing this assignment on paper, make sure to put your name on it.

Civil War

Spying on the South

During the Civil War, a young black woman born into slavery helped the Union defeat the Confederate South—and end enslavement in America.

JANUARY 27, 2020 By Tonya Bolden

As You Read, Think About: How did Mary Richards help the Union during the Civil War? What might have motivated her to take risks?

Mary Richards's heart was pounding. She raised her fist to rap on the door of the mansion. For several seconds, everything was silent. Then the door began to creak open. Her next mission was about to begin.

Throughout much of the Civil War (1861-65), Richards had been spying on the enemy: the Southern Confederacy. Aiding the Union Army was dangerous anywhere in the South, but especially in the Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia, where she lived. Now, in August 1864, she was about to enter a *very* dangerous place, the White House of Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

Spying for the North was especially meaningful for Richards. She was black and had been born enslaved in Richmond. The 24-year-old would do anything she could to help the Union forces win the war.

Gaining entrance to the enemy's headquarters was going to be tricky. When the door to the house opened, she pretended to be a washerwoman and asked if the household had any laundry. After being told to wait, Richards found herself in a room that appeared to be Davis's study. Quickly, she began searching the drawers of a cabinet for any information that might help the Union Army.

Richards had been born enslaved. She would do anything to help the Union win.

Could there be Confederate battle plans? A map showing troop movements? Richards was said to possess a photographic memory and could carry away many details of anything that she saw.

Suddenly, someone entered the room: a man—tall, gaunt, and blind in one eye. Richards froze. It was Jefferson Davis himself.

“Who are you? What do you want?” he barked at her sternly.

Richards swallowed hard. But she had a trick up her sleeve. She knew white people like Davis wrongly believed black people were too stupid to be capable of spying. So she played dumb. Mumbling as if she had lost her way, Richards backed out of the room and then out of the house altogether, to safety. She had survived another day as part of a spy ring that would soon help the Union win the Civil War.

So it was that a young black woman—a nobody, invisible in the eyes of most white people—played a crucial role in one of the great struggles of American history.

Illustration by The Red Dress

Hiding in plain sight, black people were especially effective at spying on Confederate officers.

Born Into Slavery

Little is known about Richards's beginnings. She was born, about 1841, into slavery. From a young age, she was enslaved by a wealthy Richmond merchant.

When he died in 1843, Richards was left to his widow and their grown daughter, Elizabeth Van Lew. The women hated slavery and may have sought to free the child. But according to Virginia law,

anyone they freed would have been required to leave the state, says historian Elizabeth Varon. The Van Lews might have liberated Richards secretly so the girl could still live with them, Varon believes.

An exceptionally bright child, Richards was very special to Elizabeth Van Lew. Van Lew had Richards baptized in a white church and later sent north to be educated. This was extremely rare for a black child in the South.

In 1855, Van Lew arranged for the 14-year-old to travel as a missionary to the African nation of Liberia. But Richards was unhappy there, and in 1859, Van Lew brought her home.

When Richards returned, tensions over slavery in the United States had reached a fever pitch. The country was about to come apart in the Civil War.

The War Over Slavery

Slavery had once been common throughout the country. But by 1804, states in the North had all passed laws to eliminate it—although some only did so gradually. States in the South became concerned that slavery might be abolished in the U.S. Their economies relied on the labor of enslaved people to grow cotton, the South's most important crop.

Over time, the issue became increasingly heated. In the South, some people began to call for states that allowed slavery to secede, or break off, from the Union. Between November 1860 and February 1861, seven states did so and formed their own nation: the Confederate States of America. Many Virginians favored joining the growing rebellion.

On April 12, 1861, Confederate forces fired on the Union-held Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina. Hearing the news, the people of Richmond celebrated in the streets. War had come.

Within days, Virginia joined the Confederacy. Three more states followed by June—for a total of 11. In the Van Lew household, each day's news was received with dread.

What You Need to Know

George Eastman Museum/Getty Images

Troops operate a cannon on a northern Virginia battlefield in 1861.

The Civil War The bloodiest conflict on American soil erupted in 1861 when 11 Southern states, called the Confederacy, attempted to secede from the rest of the United States, or the Union. The war devastated the young nation. By the time of the Confederacy's defeat in 1865, the war had taken more than 750,000 lives, about 2 percent of the U.S. population.

The Fight in Richmond

From the start, Richmond was at the center of the war. Northerners thought that if they could capture the Confederate capital, the conflict could be over quickly. By mid-1862, the Union Army had pushed nearly to the outskirts of the city, sending Richmond's people into a panic.

But Southern troops under General Robert E. Lee rallied to defend their capital. In a series of clashes in June, they pushed the Northern troops back nearly to the Union's capital in Washington, D.C. Richmond was soon flooded with thousands of Union soldiers who'd been taken prisoner. Overwhelmed, the city converted old warehouses into makeshift prisons to hold them.

A secret Union sympathizer, Van Lew bribed Confederate officials so that she could deliver food and medicine to the prisoners. She even helped some prisoners escape, hiding them in her attic before speeding them on their way north.

At the same time, Van Lew began assembling a full-fledged spy ring to aid the Union. No one would prove more important to this secret society than Mary Richards.

Richards in the Spy Ring

Spying was essential to the efforts of both the Union and the Confederacy during the Civil War. In the South, black people were especially valuable in gathering intelligence for the Union. White officials and military officers would speak or work openly in the presence of black people, unable to imagine that they could understand what was happening. Black spies could effectively hide in plain sight.

In Norfolk, Virginia, for example, a black housekeeper named Mary Touvestre worked for a white engineer who was designing an early kind of submarine. Touvestre stole a set of his plans and made the perilous journey to deliver them to Union officials in Washington, D.C.

Richards was everywhere, taking coded messages to and from members of the spy ring.

By late 1863, the Richmond spy ring had grown to include men and women, both white and black. "The Van Lew mansion became the nerve center of the underground network, reaching beyond the city and into the neighboring counties," Varon has said. The ring's operatives gathered information on Confederate troop movements. They used code names and carried secret messages—some of them written in invisible ink and hidden in their clothing—to Union commanders on nearby battlefields.

Richards was everywhere, taking coded messages to and from Van Lew and members of the spy ring. Other times, her mission was to uncover fresh intelligence. Time and again, she delivered the goods. “When I open my eyes in the morning, I say to the servant, ‘What news, Mary?’” Van Lew wrote in her diary. Richards “never fails,” Van Lew noted.

The End of the War

By the summer of 1864, General Ulysses S. Grant, the Union Army’s top commander, had laid siege to the town of Petersburg, only 25 miles away. Union troops had cut off supplies to Richmond. How long could Confederate forces defend it?

The spy ring scoured the city for information about Confederate plans to give to the Union commanders. Richards did her part. She even managed to slip into the chambers of the Confederate Senate, where she hid in a closet and eavesdropped on a secret session. Later, in nearby Fredericksburg, Richards gave Union forces the information they needed to capture two Confederate officers.

On April 2, 1865, Grant’s Union troops pushed through the Confederate lines at Petersburg. Lee’s Confederate Army abandoned Richmond—and Northern troops soon marched triumphantly through the streets. “Richmond at last!” one white woman heard a black Union soldier shout, much to her horror.

A week later, Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox Court House, near Richmond. The Civil War was all but over. The following December, slavery was finally abolished by the ratification of the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Life After Wartime

After the war, the U.S. government showed its appreciation to Van Lew. “You have sent me the most valuable information received from Richmond during the war,” Grant wrote to her. But left largely unknown to him—and to generations of Americans since— were the scores of people, many of them enslaved, who had risked death to serve as the eyes and ears of the Richmond spy ring.

They included Mary Richards. Now legally free after the war, she left Van Lew’s house to strike out on her own. Since the fall of Richmond, she had been teaching black people there. Later that year, she traveled to New York City to give lectures on her adventures as a Union spy.

Her audiences were spellbound. According to one account, “She urged the educated young men and women to go South” and establish schools to help formerly enslaved people on the “road to freedom.” Even though slavery was over, she said, there was much work to be done to bring justice to black people.

Richards practiced what she preached. In 1867, she ran a school in Georgia for the Freedmen's Bureau, an agency created by Congress to aid poor Southerners, both black and white, devastated by the war. But faced with a lack of funds and anger from local white people, the school had to close after several months.

The Most Fabled Spy

Soon after, the details of Richards's life become a mystery. At times, it's even difficult to know which name to use for her. Many historians call her Mary Bowser, from a brief period in which she was married. But Richards used many other names for herself through the years.

Why? For one thing, Richards had used many different names in her years as a spy. Also, growing up as a black person in the South, she may have learned early in life that it was safer to conceal her true self and put on an act in front of white people. Always hiding in plain sight.

Mary Richards was "the most fabled—and most elusive" of the Richmond spies, writes Varon. Even in her mystery, she made history.

Junior Scholastic
SKILL BUILDER Name: Date:

Comprehension

Know the News: Spying on the South

Read the article on pages 17-21, then answer the questions.

1. **Which conclusion about Mary Richards can you draw from the article?**
   Ⓐ She worked to bring justice to black people after the Civil War.
   Ⓑ She always tried to show her true self.
   Ⓒ She was a secret Confederate sympathizer.
   Ⓓ The Union couldn't have won the Civil War without her.

2. **What was extremely rare about Richards's childhood in the South?**
   Ⓐ Little is known about her beginnings.
   Ⓑ She lived in Richmond, the capital of the Confederacy.
   Ⓒ She was born enslaved.
   Ⓓ She was sent north to be educated.

3. **Who was the president of the Confederacy?**
   Ⓐ Jefferson Davis
   Ⓑ Ulysses S. Grant
   Ⓒ Robert E. Lee
   Ⓓ Abraham Lincoln

4. **Which event happened last?**
   Ⓐ Confederate troops attacked Fort Sumter.
   Ⓑ Mary Richards traveled to Africa as a missionary.
   Ⓒ Northern troops marched triumphantly through Richmond, Virginia.
   Ⓓ The Union Army laid siege to Petersburg, Virginia.

5. **The turning point of the Civil War took place at the battle of ___.**
   Ⓐ Appomattox Court House
   Ⓑ Fort Sumter
   Ⓒ Gettysburg
   Ⓓ Petersburg

6. **According to the article, spies gathered intelligence at all of these places *except* ___.**
   Ⓐ the Confederate Senate
   Ⓑ a Freedmen's Bureau school
   Ⓒ the Confederate White House
   Ⓓ a submarine engineer's home

7. **Details about Civil War spies in other cities would best fit in which section of the article?**
   Ⓐ "The War Over Slavery"
   Ⓑ "The Fight in Richmond"
   Ⓒ "Richards in the Spy Ring"
   Ⓓ "Life After Wartime"

8. **Which statement about the 13th Amendment is true?**
   Ⓐ It said freed black people had to move to new states.
   Ⓑ It abolished slavery in the U.S.
   Ⓒ It ended the Civil War.
   Ⓓ It allowed states that had seceded to rejoin the Union.

9. **What does *elusive* mean in this sentence? "Mary Richards was 'the most fabled—and most elusive' of the Richmond spies."**
   Ⓐ famous
   Ⓑ forgettable
   Ⓒ mysterious
   Ⓓ successful

10. **Which statement is an opinion?**
    Ⓐ The Civil War could have been avoided.
    Ⓑ Richards was unhappy as a missionary in Liberia.
    Ⓒ Slavery was once common in the U.S.
    Ⓓ Richards used many different names over the years.

©2020 by Scholastic Inc. All rights reserved. Permission granted to teachers and subscribers to make copies of this page to distribute to their students.

Name:_____ **Week 4 Day 4**

Figurative Language Worksheet #3

Assonance, Oxymoron, and Pun

Figurative language is used in all kinds of writing, but is most commonly found in poetry. Figurative language is a way for the writer to add more detail to their writing as well as some extra creativity.

For today's worksheet, you are going to be identifying which of the following three figurative language techniques, assonance, oxymoron, or pun, are being used in each example sentence.

Assonance: Identity or similarity in sound between internal vowels in neighboring words. Many times poems use this technique if they want it to rhyme.

- **Example: The light of the fire is a sight**
- **Why is this assonance?**
  - **The long "i" sound can be found in the words "light", "fire", and "sight".**

Oxymoron: A figure of speech in which opposite or contradictory terms appear side by side.

- **Example: The silence in the room was deafening.**
- **Why is this oxymoron?**
  - **For something to be silent, it means there's no sound, so for it to be described as deafening, meaning very loud, makes this statement an oxymoron. It is being used to show how the silence is overwhelming.**

Pun: A play on words

- **Example: Frog parking only, all others will be toad.**
- **Why is this pun?**
  - **It is a play on words because the correct spelling is "towed" for when a car is going to be taken away. A "toad" is related to a frog, so it is supposed to be a funny play on words.**

Directions: For the following sentences, say which of the three types of figurative language listed above is being used. After writing what type of figurative language it is, then explain why.

Example: Hear the mellow wedding bells

Answer: assonance

Explanation: mellow, wedding, and bells all use the same "e" sound.

1. Saying goodbye to my family before moving was very bittersweet.
   - Which figurative language is being used?
     - Answer:
     - Explanation:
2. I've been to the dentist many times so I know the drill.
   - Which figurative language is being used?
     - Answer:
     - Explanation:

3. How do construction workers party? They raise the roof.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
4. Go slow over the road.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
5. I had to put the books in random order.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
6. Try as I might, the kite did not fly.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
7. That cat sat back.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
8. There was a small crowd at the restaurant.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
9. Reading out in the sun will make you well red.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:

10. Nick had to quickly pick up his drink.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
11. A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two-tired.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
12. Honesty is the best policy.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
13. The teacher lost the original copy of the worksheet.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
14. The walking dead were roaming the streets during the apocalypse.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:
15. Always trust a glue salesman, they tend to stick to their word.
    - Which figurative language is being used?
        - Answer:
        - Explanation:

If doing this assignment online, make sure to hit turn in when you're done.

If doing this assignment on paper, make sure to put your name on it.