

Figurative Language

Term	Definition	Example
Simile (SIM-uh-lee)	Uses the words “like” or “as” to compare one object or idea with another to suggest they are alike.	She sings like an angel As American as apple pie
Metaphor	States a fact or draws a verbal picture by the use of comparison. A simile would say you are like something; a metaphor is more positive - it says you are something.	You are what you eat The snow is a white blanket This hospital is a refrigerator
Personification	When human characteristics are given to an animal or an object.	The wind whistled through the trees
Alliteration	The repetition of the same initial letter, sound, or group of sounds in a series of words. *Alliteration includes tongue twisters.	She sells seashells by the seashore.
Onomatopoeia (ah-nuh-mah-da-pee-uh)	The use of a word to describe or imitate a natural sound or the sound made by an object or an action.	Snap Crackle Pop Crash Boom Crunch
Hyperbole (hy-PER-buh-lee)	An exaggeration so dramatic the no one would believe the statement is true.	I've told you a million times He has a ton of homework
Idiom	A word or phrase which means something different from its literal meaning	It cost an arm and a leg What a rip off

Cliché (clee-SHAY)	An expression that has been used so often that it has become boring	I had the time of my life Don't judge a book by its cover.
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