

Figurative Language and Writing Terms

Alliteration: Repeating the same initial consonant sound in a sentence.

Bobby blew bubbles on the bumpy boat.

Idiom: An expression that means something different than what the words actually say.

It had been raining cats and dogs all day.

Metaphor: Comparing two unlike things as if they had something in common.

My grandfather's hair is bone white.

Onomatopoeia: A word that resembles the sound that it represents.

The bee buzzed as it went from flower to flower.

Oxymoron: A short phrase combining two terms that are normally contradictory.

Sarah ate some jumbo shrimp for dinner.

Palindrome: A word or phrase that reads the same forwards and backwards.

"Bob, would you clean up your room?" asked mom.

Personification: Giving human qualities, feelings, action, or characteristics to inanimate (non-living) objects.

The leaves danced in the wind.

Pun: The humorous use of a word to suggest a different meaning.

Math teachers have lots of problems.

Simile: Comparing two unlike things as if they had something in common. Similes **ALWAYS** have the words "like" or "as" in the sentence. If the sentence does not have the words "like" or "as", then it is a metaphor.

*The new trumpet shined **liked** the sun.*

The puppy's eyes are as blue as the sky.