

Identify Figurative Language

Review the different types of figurative language listed to help you identify them later.
How many terms do you already know?

Term/Definition	Examples
Simile Comparison of two things using the word <i>like</i> or <i>as</i>	His stomach grumbling, Sam was as hungry <u>as</u> a wolf.
Metaphor A comparison between two things that does NOT include use <i>like</i> or <i>as</i>	Kim swims so well, she's practically a mermaid!
Personification Giving human qualities to something not human	The wind howled outside during the storm. <i>or</i> The alarm clock yells at me in the morning.
Idiom A common figure of speech whose meaning is different from the literal meaning of its words	Don't judge a book by its cover. <i>or</i> You hit the nail on the head.
Hyperbole An exaggerated claim not meant to be taken literally	Jake's huge dog was the size of a small house!

Get Started!

Sketch It

Choose two of the example sentences on the previous page and draw a picture of the description in the boxes below.

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Practice: Identify Figurative Language

Read the following story and look for examples of figurative language. Use colored pencils, highlighters, or crayons to keep track of each type of figurative language you find.

There are **two examples** for each of the following types of figurative language, but you're only required to find **one** of each. Cross off, circle, or highlight each example you find using different colors, so you can keep track!

Types

- simile
- personification
- hyperbole
- metaphor
- idiom

Gloomy Afternoon

Justin pondered what to do with his afternoon as he stared out the window longingly. His homework was a dragon that he'd already slain for the day. But all his hard work seemed pointless, now that it was raining cats and dogs. He watched the tree branches dance in the downpour. He remarked upon how dark and gloomy this day was turning out to be, while he watched the birds tremble in the treetop and ruffle the water off their feathers. He really wanted to play outside, but that clearly wasn't going to happen now that it would rain forever.

Justin sighed as he headed to the kitchen to find a snack. The old wooden staircase groaned with every step he took. The stairs always made creepy noises like they were the star of their very own horror movie.

In the kitchen, he began his search. He selected a granola bar, but he couldn't reach the drink in the fridge. The fridge was a mountain he'd have to climb, and his drink was a mile away on the top shelf! Even with the stepstool, he had to stretch out his arm like Laffy Taffy to reach the small carton of orange juice. As he opened it, the familiar smell of citrus reminded him of the fifth-grade, when he enjoyed the same drink every morning on the bus.

Justin leaned back in contentment after he finished his snack. He realized that the kitchen had become brighter. The sun had returned, and the rain had stopped! He jumped up in excitement. "Better late than never!" he exclaimed as he rushed outside to play.

Answer Key

How many of the examples of figurative language were you able to find? Check your work against this answer key.

Justin pondered what to do with his afternoon as he stared out the window longingly. **His homework was a dragon** that he'd already slain for the day. But all his hard work seemed pointless, now that it was raining cats and dogs. **He watched the tree branches dance** in the downpour. He remarked upon how dark and gloomy this day was turning out to be, while he watched the birds tremble in the treetop and ruffle the water off their feathers. He really wanted to play outside, but that clearly wasn't going to happen now that it would rain forever.

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Metaphor

Idiom

Simile

Hyperbole

Personification