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**What is Figurative Language?**



Figurative language is a word or phrase that does not have its normal everyday, literal meaning. It is used by the writer for the sake of comparison or dramatic effect. Authors use similes, metaphors, hyperbole, and personification to make their stories more interesting.



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**Simile**
**A simile uses the words “like” or “as” to compare one object or**
**idea with another to suggest they are alike.
Example: busy as a bee**

**Metaphors**
**The metaphor states a fact or draws a verbal picture by the use of comparison.
A metaphor makes a direct comparison - it says you are something.
Example: You are what you eat.**

**Personification**
**A figure of speech in which human characteristics are**
**given to an animal or an object.**
**Example: My teddy bear gave me a hug.**

**Alliteration**
**The repetition of the same initial letter, sound, or group of sounds in a series**
**of words. Alliteration includes tongue twisters.**
**Example: She sells seashells by the seashore.**

**Onomatopoeia**
**The use of a word to describe or imitate a natural sound**
**or the sound made by an object or an action.**
**Example: snap, crackle, pop**

**Hyperbole**
**An exaggeration that is so dramatic that no one would believe the**
**statement is true. Tall tales are hyperboles.
Example: He was so hungry, he ate that whole**
**cornfield for lunch, stalks and all.**

**Idioms**
**An expression whose meaning is not predictable from
the usual meanings of the actual words.**
**Example: I have a frog in my throat.**







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