

Mastering Figurative Language with Max the Maths Monkey

Learning objective: To identify and explain the use of figurative language, including similes, metaphors, personification, and alliteration, to enhance descriptive writing.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of poetic devices. Read the front of the card, think of the definition or example, and flip it over to check your understanding. Pay close attention to how Max the Maths Monkey uses these tools to add 'numerical precision' to his creative writing!

Simile A comparison between two things using the words 'as' or 'like'. Example: Max is as busy as a bee.	Metaphor A direct comparison stating that one thing is another, without using 'as' or 'like'. Example: The classroom was a zoo.
Personification Giving human qualities, emotions, or actions to non-human objects or animals. Example: The wind whispered secrets through the trees.	Alliteration The repetition of the same consonant sound at the start of words close together. Example: Seven silly snakes slithered slowly.
Onomatopoeia Words that imitate the natural sounds of a thing. Example: The sausages sizzled in the pan with a loud pop!	Hyperbole An extreme exaggeration used for emphasis or effect, not meant to be taken literally. Example: I have told you a million times to tidy your desk!
Imagery Descriptive language that appeals to the five senses (sight, sound, smell, taste, touch) to create a vivid picture in the reader's mind.	Identify the technique: 'The golden sun smiled down on the meadow.' Personification (giving the sun the human action of smiling).
Identify the technique: 'Her smile was as bright as the sun.' Simile (comparing a smile to the sun using 'as').	Identify the technique: 'The stars were shimmering diamonds in the velvet night.' Metaphor (stating the stars are diamonds).
Identify the technique: 'Crunch, crackle, pop!' Onomatopoeia (words that mimic the sound of dry leaves).	Identify the technique: 'Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.' Alliteration (repetition of the 'p' sound).