

Adventures in Language: Figurative Flourishes

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

Read the short story below about Max the monkey's day in the jungle. Look for examples of figurative language, then answer the questions to show what you have learned.

Max the monkey swung through the canopy. The morning sun was a golden coin shining in the sky. As he climbed, the ancient trees whispered secrets to one another, their long, leafy arms reaching out to greet him. Max felt as light as a feather as he leaped between the branches. Below him, the river was a shimmering ribbon of silk winding through the forest floor. He spotted Pip the caterpillar munching on a leaf, looking like a tiny, hungry green comma on the edge of a giant page.

Word bank: Simile · Metaphor · Personification · Alliteration · Imagery · Comparison

1. Find a simile in the passage. Write it down and explain why it is a simile. (2 marks)

2. Identify the metaphor used to describe the sun. Why does this help the reader imagine the scene? (2 marks)

3. Explain the personification used in the sentence: 'the ancient trees whispered secrets to one another'. (2 marks)

4. Look at the description of the river. Is this a simile or a metaphor? Explain your choice. (2 marks)

5. Write your own sentence about the wind using personification. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of the scene described in the passage. Include the golden coin sun, the ribbon-like river, and Max the monkey swinging through the trees.



Extension challenge: Imagine Max finds a treasure chest hidden in the forest. Write three sentences describing the chest, using one simile, one metaphor, and one example of personification.