

Poetic Techniques: Crafting Vivid Imagery with Leo the Lion

Learning objective: To identify and apply figurative language, including metaphors, similes, and personification, to create atmospheric poetry.

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of poetic devices to craft creative, descriptive responses. Ensure you use sophisticated vocabulary to enhance the imagery in your writing.

Leo the Lion is writing a poem about the sunrise over the savannah. He wants to move beyond simple descriptions and use figurative language to make his poetry truly roar with life.

Word bank: Alliteration · Metaphor · Simile · Personification · Onomatopoeia · Stanza · Rhythm · Imagery

1. Leo wants to use a simile to describe the golden sun as it rises. Write one original sentence using a simile that compares the sun to something unexpected. Explain why this comparison is effective. (3 marks)

2. Define the term 'personification'. Now, write a line of poetry giving the wind a human action as it moves through the long grass of the savannah. (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast a metaphor and a simile. Give an example of each to support your explanation. (3 marks)

4. Identify the technique used in this line: 'The silver stream sang a soft, secret song.' How does the use of this specific sound device contribute to the mood of the poem? (2 marks)

5. What might happen to the reader's engagement if a poet chose to avoid using any figurative language at all? Justify your answer with reference to the importance of imagery. (3 marks)

6. Compose a four-line stanza (a quatrain) about a thunderstorm, incorporating at least one example of onomatopoeia and one metaphor. (4 marks)

Draw: Illustrate a scene inspired by Leo's poetry, depicting the sunrise over the savannah. Label three specific areas of your drawing with the poetic techniques (e.g., 'Simile: The sun is like a golden coin') you used to describe them.



Extension challenge: Leo is planning to publish a collection of poems. Write a persuasive blurb (approximately 50-75 words) for the back cover of his book, 'Echoes of the Wild', that encourages children to see the beauty in nature through the power of poetic language.