

Figurative Language Explorer: Character Description Template

Learning objective: To identify and use figurative language—including similes, metaphors, and personification—to create vivid character descriptions.

Join Max the monkey and Zara the zebra as they explore the power of descriptive writing! Use this template to create a brand new character. Use the word bank to help you include figurative language. Aim to show, not just tell, what your character is like.

Word bank: shimmering · as brave as a lion · a heart of gold · the wind whispered · like a bolt of lightning · a mountain of strength · danced across the sky · as quiet as a shadow

1. Character Introduction: Introduce your character's name and their physical appearance. Use a simile to describe one of their features. (2 marks)

2. The Hidden Personality: Describe how your character acts using a metaphor. (e.g., 'His mind was a library of secrets.') (2 marks)

3. Setting the Scene: Describe the environment around your character using personification to bring the setting to life. (2 marks)

4. Action Sequence: Describe your character moving through their world. What do they do? Use an adverb and a strong verb. (2 marks)

5. Reflective Summary: Why does this character stand out? Use one final piece of figurative language to summarise their spirit. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Choose one sentence from your description and rewrite it twice: once using only literal language, and once using even more adventurous figurative language. Compare the difference in tone.