

Paint Your Prose: A Guide to Figurative Language

Don't just tell a story—bring it to life with the magic of words!

- A simile compares two different things using the words 'like' or 'as'. For example: 'The river sparkled like a trail of diamonds.'
- A metaphor describes something by saying it IS something else to show a shared quality. For example: 'The stars were lanterns in the night sky.'
- Personification gives human qualities to objects or animals. For example: 'The ancient trees whispered secrets to the wind.'
- Onomatopoeia uses words that sound like the noise they describe, such as 'hiss', 'thud', or 'buzz'.
- Alliteration is the repetition of the same sound at the start of words close together: 'The brave, bold bear bounced beautifully.'

Did you know? Did you know that writers use figurative language like a painter uses a palette? By choosing the right words, you can make your reader hear the crackle of a fire, feel the icy bite of the wind, or see a lion's mane glowing like a golden sunset. It turns a simple sentence into a masterpiece!

Key vocabulary: Simile · Metaphor · Personification · Onomatopoeia · Alliteration · Imagery · Hyperbole